

Wiltshire Record Society

(formerly the Records Branch of the Wiltshire
Archaeological and Natural History Society)

VOLUME 63

A Register Book for Christmas, Managers, & Annual
 in the Parish of Broughton Gifford Beginning March 25 1716

The Brewhouse Built Ano Dni. 1706 by entry built Paid then
 The Garden Stone wall was Built Ano Dni 1718 by Pass on
 The Garden Pale next ye Church set up Ano Dni 1718 with
 The Wall next ye East end of ye Garden
 The stable done at severall times
 The Booke Barns new walled & plastered 1696
 The Stone part of ye Barn built Ano Dni 1702 new floor
 The Doors a New floor etc. done Ano Dni 1711
 The Partition of ye Hall is moved a new
 with a new Window & New Door made Ano 1693
 The Necessary House built Ano 1707
 The Iron Court Paid Ano Dni. 1707
 The New Raile & Pale of ye Iron Court set up Ano. 1718
 The Kitchen Enlarged & plastered with Chimney Ano. 1713
 The Parler new Plastered all round the Ceiled Ano 1693
 The Stair Case Ceiled Ano 1693
 The Parler Chamber Ceiled & Plastered on 2 sides Ano 1693
 A new Chimney pipe put in ye Parler Chimney Ano 1700
 The Chamber by ye Shop ye Chimney & hearth new done & half ye floor 1713
 The Cancell was New Roofed & Ceiled Ano. 1719
 The first Charge & Expence was ye year 1690 when I came to
 live at Broughton, mending the Barri. a floor & Boarding
 ye two Ends & Propping up the
 It is requisite for my success to be broken up & Inlozury unby the
 a way thro' ye meadows, Southfield & Afield

Note by William Hickee, rector of Broughton Gifford (see p 40)

GLEANINGS FROM
WILTSHIRE
PARISH REGISTERS

edited by

STEVEN HOBBS

Wiltshire and Swindon Archives

CHIPPENHAM

2010

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PREFACE

Over a considerable period of time Wiltshire's parish registers have been pored over by a steady stream of antiquarians, family historians and parish clergy, some of whom have drawn attention in print and typescript to the material included in this volume. I would like to acknowledge their work and interest in general. In particular I am grateful to Ken and Helen Rogers for identification of biblical references; Penelope Rundle for difficult Latin phrases; John Hurley and members of Wiltshire Family History Society transcription group, who shared many interesting items they came across in their work; and Robert Jago for his invaluable proof-reading skills. General editor Dr Virginia Bainbridge made cogent and sensible suggestions to improve the introduction, and it was her neat idea for images of illustrations and printed items to be inserted within the text, a first for this Record Series. The Place and Persons index was made by Philip Aslett. Jane Silcocks took the photographs. I wish to record my gratitude to Dr John Chandler for his technical skill and patience, in bringing the text to publishable form, a process protracted by a series of substantial revisions and many corrections. Finally tribute is due to the many incumbents and parish clerks whose notes and memoranda have so considerably enhanced the registers' value as an historical source.

Steven Hobbs

INTRODUCTION

The principal importance of parish registers of baptism, marriage and burial is as a source for the life events of our predecessors: They provide the only vestigial record for the vast majority of English people from the sixteenth to the nineteenth century. The huge growth of interest in family history over the last thirty years has made them the most heavily used class of local archive. As notable and entirely worthy as this development has been it has tended to distort their historical significance, so that they are regarded almost exclusively as a genealogical resource, enlivened and animated when the incumbent adds observations on the circumstances and character of his parishioners.¹

It is time for a reassessment of their importance. On the pages, endpapers and covers of the registers can be found memoranda, jottings and annotations which provide firsthand evidence for events, attitudes and activities that might otherwise be undocumented. Varied, random and indiscriminate, they provide useful insights and clues for further research. They complement the genealogical details to record aspects of parish life of importance to the historian. Parish registers should be regarded not only as bureaucratic records of the rites of passage, but also as chronicles of communal memory and experience. The variety of this material is considerable and can inform a wide range of studies, from those of specific local interest, such as the fabric of the parish church and local charities, to broader-based topics, including demographic research, religious practice, and attitudes to the religious and political upheavals of the English Civil War. The Wiltshire registers contain three varied and unique documents of outstanding importance: A communal arrangement for stocking the commons in Shrewton in 1650; a Quarter Sessions order for dealing with vagrants in 1678; and statistics for the whole county as the basis for plans to counter the threat of invasion in 1803.²

This aspect of the registers was recognised by the first antiquarian to extensively study them, J S Burn in 1828.³ He devoted a chapter to such items gleaned from around the country, and complained of the paucity of the material, expressing the wish that those printed format registers introduced under Rose's Act of 1812 should have blank sections for remarks. However, the next authority on parish registers, J C Cox covered such material in three short chapters in his book *Parish Registers of England*; grouping them under historical events, the weather and, whimsically, 'Olla Podrida', meaning a hotchpotch.⁴ Yet he included within them several informative baptismal, marriage and burial entries, an indication that he felt that the non-genealogical material did not merit special attention. Over sixty years ago WE Tate, in his magisterial study *The Parish Chest*, drew attention to what he called 'miscellaneous entries', describing them as

other records as may be found [which] do not really relate to registration business at all, and have been entered in the registers largely for convenience, or perhaps

from the notion that the recording of an agreement in the parish register gave it extra sanctity, or simply because the register was the book most readily to hand.⁵

He identified the two main reasons for using registers other than for their principal purpose; as a place of record and as an informal notebook. In spite of his attention, registers remain a source underused by historians. This is probably due to the randomness of the distribution of the material, which was so dependent on the keeper of the register; incumbent or parish clerk. Furthermore, similar material might be expected to be found in more obvious sources, such as vestry minutes and account books of the churchwardens and overseers of the poor, with the result that registers have been overlooked.

Parish registers offer serendipity, with no guarantee of success, so they have become the preserve of only the most pertinacious local historian: But the evidence from Wiltshire suggests that a considerable amount of important and unique material can be found in them, complementing that found in other parish records. When he wrote in 1885 '... as I know from experience that shreds & patches when put together make up a quilt, & sometimes one finds a hint unexpectedly w[hic]h helps to something else', Canon John Jackson was expressing an experience common to all who have delved in historical sources for information and detail, but his words are particularly appropriate for that gleaned from parish registers.⁶

The huge growth of interest in family history has created another reason for an edition of the non genealogical material in the registers; in its impact on their preservation and access. The legislative framework regulating their format and keeping, briefly outlined below, culminated in The Parochial Registers and Records Measure (Act), 1978, revised 1992, which was promoted by a strong genealogical lobby led by Lord Teviot. This led to the removal of the vast majority of registers and other parish records from cupboards and safes in churches and their deposit in local record offices, something previously achieved piecemeal by negotiation between archivist and individual incumbent. The initial wave of material thus transferred coupled with the demands of access by ever increasing numbers of family historians, placed difficult, although, welcome challenges for archive services. Collecting, accessioning and cataloguing were carried out at a fierce pace with inevitable compromises, most notably in the level of listing; it was often only possible to record the more obvious memoranda and not produce detailed descriptive lists. Such heavy demand for access drew attention to the need to provide copies to preserve the originals. Many archive services gratefully accepted the offer of free microfilming of the registers by The Church of Latter Day Saints, whose belief in baptising the ancestors of its current members into the faith inevitably concentrated attention on their genealogical content. Similarly transcription by individuals and Family History Societies has tended to restrict itself to the gathering of the names of those christened, married and buried. Accessible now only as microfilmed or fished, digital, or transcribed copies, the registers now lie in secure and controlled environments, an archival Valhalla, no longer prey to damp, vermin or uninformed neglect that befell many of them in the past. This has created different issues of access to their full content: For it is entirely possible that material published in this edition,

often found on endpapers or covers of registers in faded ink or pencil, has been overlooked by both photographers and transcribers.⁷

THE LEGISLATIVE FRAMEWORK

The keeping of records of baptism, marriage and burial was required from 1538 under an injunction by Thomas Cromwell.⁸ Early registers were generally of paper, but Canon 12 of 1598 issued by the Synod of Canterbury ordered that books of parchment, a more durable material, should be purchased by each parish and that all existing entries, or at least those from the start of Elizabeth's reign, must be copied into them.⁹ These copies rarely contain any annotations which may have been made in the original registers, although in any case the six Wiltshire parishes (Calne, Chippenham, Steeple Ashton, Tisbury, Urchfont and West Dean) for which original (1538) registers survive have very few annotations. This suggests that the practice of annotating developed rather slowly, as the registers came to be regarded less as a central government imposition and more as a parish record that could be adapted for local needs.¹⁰

Provided that this instruction was followed, the register was to some extent released from a bureaucratic straitjacket and a less rigid format could develop, reflecting the interests and requirements of the parish. Churchwardens purchased what they thought met the means and needs of their parishes. This led inevitably to considerable room for variety and individuality in the format and style of the registers, provided that this did not detract from the primary business of registration. The opportunity presented by the blank pages and wide margins was taken up by many incumbents and parish clerks to include other information of local importance, so registers became repositories of local knowledge and experience. Significantly, the registers of populous urban parishes, in which registration business was extremely brisk, fare less well in the quantity of additional notes than rural villages, where the pace of such work was inevitably much slower and there was more scope to be expansive.

The Act 'Touching Marriages and the Registering thereof, and also Touching Births and Burials', which came into force on 29 September 1653, radically altered the keeping of the registers. Officers known, confusingly, as 'parish registers', were to be appointed to keep the registers, together with all registers of 'marriages, Birthes and burials already past to be kept as recordes'. They were to be elected, initially for three years, by the parishioners, often described as inhabitants, householders or contributors to the poor rates, and sworn into office before a Justice of the Peace.¹¹ However its most controversial regulation was to wrest the marriage service from clerical control making it a secular ceremony to be performed before Justices of the Peace. (see Civil War and Commonwealth section below). This Act also made provision for the uniting of small parishes and extra-parochial places to ensure its full implementation. Chitterne St Mary and Chitterne All Saints made use of this clause, and in 1654 began a process of union that was completed ecclesiastically in 1819, and civilly in 1907.¹²

The Act for Burials in Woollen, 1678, which required an affidavit that the corpse was buried in a woollen shroud, in order to support the home

woollen industry, often led to a separate register being kept. These were usually of paper, indicating an inferior status to the traditional parchment registers. In turn this may explain why those for Donhead St Mary and Mildenhall were used by other parish officers, churchwardens, overseers of the poor and surveyors of the highways to record their accounts, or even in the case of the former, orders of the vestry concerning poor law and highway business. The register for Wylye was later used to record payments of Sacrament money between 1792 and 1827.¹³ An affidavit for each burial was to be made before a Justice of the Peace that the Act had been complied with. A certificate approved in 'Petit Sessions' in 1685 in the Heytesbury register provides a rare insight into the work of the lowest tier of judicial administration.¹⁴ Fines for non-compliance were split between the informant and parish poor funds. The burials of several members of the wealthy Long family of Draycot Cerne openly flouted the law and the fines are recorded in the register.¹⁵

The demands of central government for revenue led to an Act in 1694 which imposed a tax on baptisms, marriages and burials, based on a sliding scale according to the social status of the individual. Some registers reflect the requirements of the legislation and become, for about ten years, a very informative source for the social structure of their parishes, providing, in particular, information about occupations. In order that the tax burden was shared across all religious persuasions, births and burials of nonconformists can be found in the registers of nine parishes, on the western side of the county between Malmesbury and Warminster.¹⁶

Causes of death are sometimes noted in registers. This is not restricted to accidental or violent deaths, and the victims of such diseases as smallpox or plague are often noted.¹⁷ The provision of this information, with ages at death and occupations of parents, was regularised in printed format registers of baptisms and burials, and was a result of another law taxing births, marriages and deaths, The Stamp Act of 1783. Examples of these survive for 25 Wiltshire parishes and are a valuable demographic source.¹⁸

Printed format registers for marriages were introduced in 1754 as a result of Hardwicke's Act, 1753, which aimed to prevent clandestine, often illegal, marriages.

Several smaller rural parishes and the three city parishes in Salisbury initially chose not to purchase these bespoke registers, presumably in order to avoid extra expenditure. The recording of baptisms and burials generally continued unchanged until Rose's Act of 1812, which introduced the form of registers familiar today, and makes a suitable point to conclude this study. Often the empty pages of the redundant registers and endpapers of the new printed registers were used for memoranda, although these lack the range, individuality and vitality so often found in earlier examples, largely comprising information on worthy subjects like church fabric, schools and charitable foundations. In a few cases, notes made as recently as 1870 have been included, where they supplement earlier material or are of particular interest.

MINISTERS

The registers are very useful for the compilation of lists of clergy. Although the principal source is the bishops' registers of institutions to benefices, and records of visitations, at which clerics presented their ordination papers, they are not always complete. This was particularly the case during the Civil War and Interregnum which so seriously dislocated ecclesiastical administration. Curates, whose appointments were not made by the bishop, are particularly difficult to pin down. Incumbents might sign the register annually, as required by Canon 12 of the 1598 Canons (see above) but records of their institution and subscription to the articles of religion, frequently found in the registers, often include biographical details that can assist in identifying them and tracing their careers.¹⁹ They are also useful in establishing continuity between successive incumbents and the lengths of periods of vacancy. Institution to a benefice was usually performed by local clergy, including lowly curates, and this detail is useful in establishing networks of association between clergymen.

The registers were written up by the incumbent or parish clerk, and it is inevitable that this control on the appearance and content of the books means that their character and interests are illuminated far more frequently than any of their fellow parishioners. The meticulous and obsessive recording of the anniversaries of key events in his career suggests that William Lea Briscoe, vicar of Ashton Keynes and Leigh from 1786, had a overblown sense of his own importance verging on a mania, that led him to imagine that parishioners and his successors would be impressed by such information.²⁰

The more gentle forgiving character of William Hickes, rector of Broughton Gifford, was described by John Wilkinson, in his account of that parish published over a century later, who wrote of him as 'a keen, observant man, not unkindly, but tenacious of his own rights and of the law ... He was not without a sense of humour, was something of a gossip, and believed in ghosts and apparitions'.²¹ His account of a poltergeist has much of interest for the reader.²²

In his determination to defend his rights, whether against burials of non-parishioners or in resisting the efforts of the overseers to charge poor rates on three cottages given by a predecessor for the use of the poor, Thomas Hewitt, vicar of Westbury and Dilton from 1749 to 1792, reveals himself to be a man not to be crossed. He appears self assertive and cantankerous, and is by far the most prolix, and thus, informative, of the Wiltshire clergy. What he has to say is of considerable historical interest. In particular his determined efforts to control who was buried in his two churchyards, fired him to describe in vivid terms the overcrowding in Dilton churchyard.²³

Some clergymen exercised their literary skills, like Edmund Baron, curate, of Ogbourne St George, who produced a patriotic verse inspired by the christening of a child called Elizabeth in 1604, just three days after the death of the Queen.²⁴ Around 1820 George Macness Johnson, vicar of Shalbourne, wrote verses in an earlier register, of fairly modest standard, but he addressed one prophetically, in view of the subject matter of this volume, 'For those who may peruse this register in a hundred years hence'.²⁵

BENEFICES

The importance of preserving privileges and rights for themselves and their successors, was prevalent in the minds of many incumbents. Several clergymen recorded in great detail the work they had paid for in maintaining the fabric of vicarages or rectories and the chancel of the parish church and in so doing provide a rare source for the study of these buildings. A prime motive for doing this was to protect themselves, or the beneficiaries of their estates, against any unreasonable claims for dilapidations their successors might make. The register was the ideal repository of this information, since it was passed on from incumbent to incumbent. There are several good examples of such memoranda, notably those kept by John Mayo, rector of Beechingstoke from 1737 to 1779, and William Hickes, rector of Broughton Gifford from 1690 to 1733.²⁶ Although John Talman, vicar of Durnford from 1727 until his death in 1765 left a briefer note in his register about his rebuilding of the vicarage, his personal account book covering the last seven years of his life survives. It offers a detailed record of his daily life in Durnford and Salisbury, where he was a Vicar Choral in the cathedral, which is lacking for other clergy in the county.²⁷ Talman's writings show that he clearly distinguished and separated what was of personal value from that of interest for his successors.

GLEBE, TITHES AND RELATIONS BETWEEN
INCUMBENTS AND PARISHIONERS

The need to preserve and maintain rights and privileges was also an important aspect of the relationship between the incumbent and his parishioners. In 1760 John Reeks, rector of Newton Tony, allowed the body of Mrs Dorothea Hill to be brought by hearse through the rectory backside. In a memorandum he emphasised that this was a permissive rather than customary right (a concession, not a precedent), granted for ease of access because the coffin was of lead and extremely heavy.²⁸

Incumbents were keen to maintain the glebe and rights to tithes, which was a source of tension with their parishioners, and there are several instances recorded in the registers. Whether they farmed their glebe themselves or leased it, ministers were as concerned at maintaining their rights on common lands as lay farmers. This matter of public record undoubtedly lay behind the inclusion of details of the stocking of the common pastures in 1659 in the Inglesham register. Reference to 24 sheep called Potters throws light on an otherwise unrecorded aspect of the tenurial history of the parish.²⁹

Although large numbers of cattle were brought each year into Wiltshire for fattening, documentary evidence is very scarce. Gilbert Cowper, vicar of Wanborough, recorded that in 1729, of 364 common leases (the right to feed stock on common land), one hundred were stocked with cattle from other parishes brought in for fattening, and although not titheable, were subject to the payment of agistment, which had been ignored. This illustrates the complexities of tithe arrangements on which the clergy relied for a considerable part of their income, and the need for such abuses to be recorded for the benefit of present and future incumbents.³⁰ These examples provide

an important source for the study of the relationship between the incumbent and his flock, a crucial dynamic in the history of the parish: Evidence from Upton Scudamore and Westbury reveal that recourse to the law was a real possibility in protecting both tithes and the glebe from encroachments.³¹

Notes about the weather, are often found, perhaps supporting Dr Johnson's view that when two Englishmen meet, this was their first topic of conversation.³² They are however a reminder of the real concerns for the success of the local harvest on which so much depended. As we might expect of the clergyman of a rural parish, John Giles, rector of Long Newnton (now in Gloucestershire), was entirely familiar and comfortable with the agricultural world in which he was directly involved, either by his own efforts on his glebe land or as the recipient of tithes of the produce of his neighbours' lands.³³

Incumbents were entitled to fees for performing services of baptism, churching of women (following childbirth), marriage (often called surplice fees) and burial, and there are several examples in the registers. The table of fees for burials in Castle Combe is a very detailed record of the costs payable to the rector according to the location of the grave and type of memorial stone, which emphasise his authority in this matter.³⁴

Affidavits made by parishioners concerning the payment of Easter offerings to successive vicars were pasted into the marriage register of Seagry as evidence of the custom. The glebe terriers are silent on this matter and they provide important evidence to complement them.³⁵

CUSTOMS

Tension between incumbent and parishioners could arise for different reasons as is illustrated by the attempt in 1610 by the rector of Everleigh to tamper with a Christmas custom. He came up with an interesting, if initially unsuccessful, compromise to dissociate the Christian feast from the perceived bacchanalian excesses of the custom. Old habits die hard and in this case were only changed in 1755 by a particularly cunning suggestion by the rector to move the custom to 5 January, the day on which Christmas Eve fell under the old Julian calendar.³⁶

Evidence of the annual custom of 'beating the bounds' can be found in the registers of seven parishes, four of them are around Chute in East Wiltshire. For the most part, these comprise detailed descriptions of the parish boundaries rich in topographical detail. They also record the methods of embedding the bounds in the communal memory by reading the Gospel at specific places, in Chute, or taking young boys along in order to pass the knowledge onto them, in Shalbourne.³⁷

Perhaps the most important document found in the Wiltshire registers is an agreement for regulating the common fields and downs in Shrewton, in 1600, following the dismemberment of the manor. It is crucial for a study of the agricultural and social history of the parish. Bereft of the apparatus of a manorial system, the parishioners sought to fill this administrative void in order to ensure the continuation of custom and practice that had prevailed under the manor court, and its officials. Because the common flocks of sheep of Shrewton and Netton had suffered for want of fodder in recent

years, money was to be collected at Midsummer to buy hay. To prevent overstocking, no more than twelve lambs were to be bred for each yardland (about 25-30 acres) in Shrewton, ten in Netton. The orders governed the grazing of horses and cattle with the appointment of a hayward and hogward for Shrewton and Netton: Seventeen dealt with these aspects of farming in great detail. Although specific to Shrewton, the information has much wider relevance for the study of agriculture in downland parishes in Wiltshire and southern England. Significantly the agreement included the statement that 'we have caused these orders to be ingrossed in this register book to remain in perpetual record.'³⁸

CHURCH AND CHURCHYARD

Although it is to the churchwardens' accounts that the church historian is principally drawn, they are often silent on two key aspects of the fabric and furnishings of the parish church; the upkeep of the chancel, which was the responsibility of the rector, whether ecclesiastical or lay, and the gift of items or funds for works, the result of individual largesse. Neither of these were paid out of church rates and so are not accounted for by the churchwardens. Gifts of church plate and furnishings for communion tables and pulpits appear to be particularly common in the mid 18th century.³⁹ Conversely, the account for the provision of a cloth and cushion for the pulpit in Broad Hinton church, is a good example of a more detailed record of expenditure, for which a single line in the churchwardens' account book usually sufficed.⁴⁰

Information on the fabric of Bradford on Avon parish church is provided in an account of a severe lightning strike on 26 January 1611, written on an end page, and so badly faded that it had not been noticed before. Its significance lies in the mention of a clock which was 'straight shattered' and its frame broken. The earliest reference previously known to a clock in the church was in the mid eighteenth century.⁴¹

The allocation of seats in church was generally agreed between the incumbent and churchwardens, and evidence of this may be found in the records for which they were primarily responsible. Richard Gough's celebrated *History of Myddle* highlights the significance of the distribution of parishioners in the church, reflecting social status. Seating plans or schemes for ten parishes are recorded in the Wiltshire registers. That for Cholderton, made in 1659, lists the parishioners and the estates to which the seats were attached. As well as full schemes there are many examples of agreements for individual seats, most notably for Corsham, where 41 were recorded in the register between 1708 and 1806.⁴² We might reasonably expect to find these in the churchwardens' accounts, but again the register can be an important and unique source.

The maintenance of churchyard walls was another matter requiring agreement, this time between incumbents and parishioners, and the arrangements for fifteen parishes can be found in Wiltshire registers for the seventeenth century. These are also indicators of the relative status of landholders, there being a correlation between size of holding and length of wall to be maintained, for example Collingbourne Kingston and

Hannington.⁴³ In some cases seating plans and churchyard bounds were updated and amended, and this palimpsest effect adds a broader scope than the snapshot of unaltered plans.⁴⁴

The significance of the distinction between chancel and nave, and thus the responsibilities for maintenance, between rector and parishioners, is illustrated by a note by the rector of Stratford Tony in 1702. The matter determined on ‘whether the arch at the east end of the church did not belong to the rectory’, and was resolved to his advantage on the verdict of workmen: ‘that the chancel goes no further than the rafters and that four tiles ... breadth more or less beyond the rafters belongs to the church’.⁴⁵

The registers can inform on more substantial alterations. A detailed account of the rebuilding of Homington church between 1794 and 1796, was written in the register, with the happy conclusion that as a result the church is ‘very light, warm and dry and much more frequented’.⁴⁶

RELIGIOUS OBSERVANCE

References to the fabric and furnishings of churches are not the only evidence of the religious life of the parish. A few examples give insight into the content of the religious services, a subject generally barely covered by local archives. The register of Durrington includes a list of preachers and the texts of their sermons delivered between 1605 and 1617. For Stert the list, which covers the period 1605-1611, has the name of the bishop who licensed the preacher, as required by Canon 48 of 1604. Under Canon 45 of 1604, all beneficed ministers, who were licensed to preach and were resident in their living, were required to preach each Sunday. Canon 52 of 1604 required the churchwardens to keep a register of visiting preachers, and these examples are rare survivals of this practice.⁴⁷ Stert was served by a curate, who at the Archbishop’s visitation in 1613 made no mention of holding a preaching licence.⁴⁸ Durrington was served by a curate appointed by the owner of the rectory estate and was probably unlicensed to preach. The lists span the period of the compilation and publication (in 1611) of the Authorised Version of the Bible. Careful study of the texts might reveal which Bible was in use before 1611 and when, or if, it was replaced by the Authorised Version.

An order from the bishop to the curate and churchwardens of Aldbourne and copied into the register, lies at the heart of the attempt by Archbishop Laud to resist the Puritan element in the Church of England. The Communion table was to be placed where the altar formerly stood, not in the nave favoured by the Puritans; and the congregation was to receive the sacrament, regarded by Laud as the centre of Christian piety and religion, kneeling at it. The first article of enquiry of his visitation of Salisbury diocese in 1634 refers to this.⁴⁹

In 1707 Francis Greenaway, the parish clerk of Preshute, wrote a series of verses, some of which may be original, but others were from the psalms in which he changed the voice from singular to plural, presumably so they could be repeated by the congregation after he spoke or sang them. This gives us with a rare glimpse of the form of church service from the early eighteenth century: ‘have mercy upon us (me) o God after thy Great Goodnes According to the multitude of thy mercies do away our (mine) offences. for

we (I) acknowledge our (my) faults & our Sins are Ever before (me) us'.⁵⁰ The illustration of the service in Christian Malford (page 60) shows the clerk in the double-decker pulpit, from where he would have recited these verses.

A series of confirmation lists for Stourton in 1703, 1711 and 1783 provide evidence of the strength of religious observance in the south west of the county (the candidates would not have been restricted to Stourton people), and may have been recorded to bolster the established church against the Catholic enclave there led by lord Stourton.⁵¹

Particularly rare and unusual survivals found on endpages of mid-18th century registers for Devizes, Melksham, Trowbridge and Wootton Bassett, are numerical notations for change ringing the bells.⁵²

Although services were held each Sunday, Communion services were generally provided only at Easter, Whitsun and Christmas for parishioners as a whole and those about to hold public office.⁵³ In noting, probably in 1840, that he now provided it six times a year the vicar of Broad Hinton expressed a commonly held view that 'The neglect and the careless receiving of the Lord's Supper are inlets to all manner of evil, and I know not whether the scandalous corruption of our own age and people be more justly imputable to any cause than to the long and general disuse of this Sacrament introduced by the confusion and hypocrisy of the last century'⁵⁴

PARISH CLERKS

Writing up the registers was not solely the responsibility of the incumbent, and in many parishes this duty fell on his assistant, the parish clerk, who was able to annotate them with a certain degree of freedom. This liberty led to many insertions ranging from informative notes about the duties of the post, dates of appointment or copy religious texts.

The office was a responsible and respectable position, one that was reasonably remunerated by a wage supplemented by fees for specific duties, and was coveted by parishioners of middling rank and with some ability to read and write. The clerkship of Codford St Mary was regarded as a freehold office worth £3 2s 6d in 1833, thus entitling the holder to vote in parliamentary elections following the widening of the franchise in the previous year.⁵⁵ Once acquired, it often remained in the same family and there are several examples of the office being held by successive generations: Most notably, the Noad family of Swindon which provided clerks for about 150 years.⁵⁶ Edward Orpin was parish clerk of Bradford on Avon from 1724 until his death in 1781, and was the subject of Thomas Gainsborough's portrait, *The Parish Clerk*.⁵⁷

In Devizes the eponymous Clarke family held the office for the parishes of St John and St Mary for about 80 years from the mid-seventeenth century.⁵⁸ Such longevity of office-holding encouraged exaggerated proprietorial feelings in the mind of Thomas Clarke, who served both Devizes parishes of St John and St Mary from 1702 to 1729. He indulged his young son Richard, allowing him to practise his handwriting in the registers of Devizes St John. Most notably Richard wrote out a ballad in praise of St George, against whom just about every figure from ancient history through to the Thirty Years War of the early 17th century, was compared, and found lacking. A

version of it was published in 1723 probably by the poet Ambrose Philips.⁵⁹ However differences in spelling and phrasing between the two suggest that Richard learned it from an earlier source, probably a broadsheet, most likely while he was at school.⁶⁰ As evidence of the continuing strength of the cult of St George, despite the efforts to suppress it during the Reformation, the poem is of considerable interest.⁶¹ Such a degree of presumption by Thomas, however, led him to overstep the bounds of good record keeping, for it must have been him who cut out the page of burials for the years 1559-1563 from the register of St John and used the blank side for the bishop's transcript of the register of St Mary for 1719.⁶²

The parish clerk assisted the minister by ringing the bell for services, leading the congregation in responses and singing metrical psalms (for the latter see above, Religious Observance). He read the epistle at Communion and lessons at Morning and Evening Prayer, and was responsible for ensuring that the church, its ornaments and furniture were kept tidy and clean. In Chilton Foliat his duties were written in the register. As well as keeping the register, for which a scale of fees applied according to the service, he was to record the payment of Easter offerings, wash the church linen, probably including the surplice, and maintain the church bells. He was also to write up the accounts and rate collections for the churchwardens and overseers of the poor.⁶³ His counterpart at Huish also had the duty of catechising, providing religious instruction for the children of Huish and Oare.⁶⁴

Under Canon 91 of 1604 the clerk was to be chosen by the vicar or rector, to whom he must be already known. He must be over twenty years, and to be of honest conversation, able to read and write, and competent at singing. He was to be paid according to parish custom, which might be by the churchwardens or his own collection.⁶⁵ He was also entitled to fees for the duties performed, as set down in tables.⁶⁶ Dereliction of duty and non payment of wages were the two most common causes of dispute over the office and several examples can be found in the diocesan archives.

Richard Marsh, parish clerk of Box, brought in two concurrent cases to the bishop's court against John Symonds in the summer of 1603 concerning his wages and defamation and misbehaviour in church. He had been chosen by John Coren, vicar in late 1601, with the approval of the majority of the householders. Several witnesses confirmed that the clerk was entitled to 4d a year from each householder, as it had been paid to his predecessors back to the early 1550's. They were: Nicholas Eaton (20 years), who was succeeded by his son Nicholas (2-3 years), and then John Newman (26-27 years). Marsh had rooms within the precincts of the church from which he and his wife sold 'pedlary' wares, and which could only be accessed through the church. One Sunday in church as was customary, he went up into the pulpit before the service began to hang up the pulpit cloth and place the cushion. Looking up Symonds was heard to say 'How well thyselfe becomes the pulpitt'. Further humiliation came when the child of William and Elizabeth Seely was brought to be baptised and when asked who the father was Symonds replied 'Dawcock, I suppose'; a derogatory nickname that many knew he called Marsh by. The outcome of the cases is unclear, like many others it is lost in the procedural

fog of church courts, into which it disappeared, although it has left valuable information about the office of parish clerk.⁶⁷

As well as containing a great variety of miscellaneous notes, registers may be embellished with elaborate title pages or annual headings, reflecting the artistic skills and penmanship of their compilers, or even illustrated with line drawings, making them attractive and lively documents to study.⁶⁸ There are also many examples of verse, in the form of encomia and aphorisms, which are doubtless the result of the clerks practising their handwriting. We must remember that there was a constant need to re-cut quills and prepare them for use. Scrap paper was hard to come by and the temptation to test a new nib, offered by the endpapers of the register or even unused parchment pages, was too great.⁶⁹ The results give the registers a vitality and exuberance they would otherwise lack. Thomas Andrews, parish clerk of Overton, tried to commit his thoughts to verse, and in doing so revealed his struggle to make it rhyme; whereas the musings of John Croke, baker and clerk of Urchfont, on 8 December 1693, suggest a more serious philosophical character:

‘Man is a glass, Life is as water, So weakly wayld about,
Sinn brings in Death, Death breaks the glass, So runst the water out’⁷⁰

ANGLICAN CHAPELS

The registers provide evidence of the often fraught relationships between parish church and dependent chapel. A decision by the Assizes in 1634 was sought to establish the pre-eminent position of Alderbury over Pitton and Farley.⁷¹ By contrast Bratton claimed parochial status in law that freed it from Westbury, although this does not seem to have been reflected in its subsequent relations with that parish, and must be held with some scepticism.⁷² Relations between Bremhill and the chapelry of Foxham in the mid 17th century were influenced by a dispute over the care of souls in the latter by the vicar of Bremhill.⁷³

CHARITY, THE POOR LAW AND LOCAL GOVERNMENT

In 1708 and 1718 Gabriel Thistlethwaite, clerk, gave money for the poor of Alderbury to be administered by the rector of Winterslow, who was to hold the writings because, as they might ‘easily wear out or be lost, it is at the request of the donor that this may be fairly recorded in a page of your parish register in perpetuam rei memoriam’. He made the same instruction for a bequest to the poor of Huish in 1718.⁷⁴ This is a good example of the use of the register as public record. Notes about local charities are a common subject of memoranda, and were frequently cited in the series of reports into endowed charities in Wiltshire dating from 1818.⁷⁵ Often details of charities are noted that are not mentioned in these reports and which presumably had ceased to function by the early nineteenth century. In 1601, for example, Hugh Atwill, parson of St Ewe in Cornwall, gave 33s 4d for the relief of the poor of Amesbury; an act of munificence whose subsequent history is as unclear as its original inspiration.⁷⁶

The most common records of charitable gifts are lists of collections resulting from briefs, which are royal orders to collect money for deserving causes throughout the country. The needy causes were most frequently responses to fires and other natural disasters, or the building of churches. These have been included in this edition only when lists of contributors are given. The interested researcher is directed to the parish record finding aids to identify such material.⁷⁷

In an attempt to help parishioners who found themselves teetering on the edge of poverty, a parish stock (a fund of cash or livestock) might be set up, to be drawn on in times of need. This stock might be managed by the churchwardens or the overseers of the poor and often figures in their account books. However, there are several examples in the registers, including one from Atworth.⁷⁸

The workings of parish administration are occasionally revealed. Lists of overseers, surveyors of the highways, serving in rotation according to their farms in Lyneham, between 1655 and 1703, are of note as they reveal a system based on tithings within the parish, each with its own officers. A list of parish records in 1661 includes an order for the neighbouring parish of Winterbourne Bassett to contribute to the poor relief. An order for Winterbourne Bassett to do so 'wherein were fewe or noe poore', unlike Lyneham, was issued at the Quarter Sessions held at Trinity 1651. It was confirmed at the Easter Sessions 1656 and rescinded at the Michaelmas Sessions, 1664. It explains the inclusion of Winterbourne here.⁷⁹

Further glimpses of the implementation of the Poor Law system are provided by the registers. Agreements between the parishes of Chilmark and Knook concerning an individual's place of settlement in 1664 and a case of bastardy in Somersford Keynes

c1635, are both written in a rather individual and convoluted style, illustrating perhaps the beginnings of a system as yet lacking the bureaucratic and formulaic style that the sheer quantity of business would soon demand. The reasoning behind the decision in a settlement case between Beechingstoke and Wilsford in 1753 provides a useful insight into that system.⁸⁰ There are several orders of the parish vestries, including one from Christian Malford with the result of a vote. Although that decision was adopted unanimously, nevertheless such examples are rare, even in vestry minute books.⁸¹

Evidence of the implementation of the Poor Laws, in particular relating to the travelling poor, is found in the registers. Calne, Ramsbury and Seend, all located on main routes, have 17th century lists of vagrants whipped and sent on their way, as allowed by law.⁸² In 1602 the rector of Heddington baptized a child, born in the church house on Easter Monday, whose parents were traveling homeward 'after they had been taken and whipped as sturdy beggars according to the Statute'; an intriguing juxtaposition of Christian charity and duty against the harsh realities of life for the homeless in the 17th century.⁸³ The most important document on this subject, however, is an order made at the Quarter Sessions in Easter 1678 concerning rogues, vagabonds and sturdy beggars. It was copied partially in the registers of three parishes, with a complete version in the Netheravon register. A note in the register of Dauntsey, of an order to be read out in church probably refers to the same

matter. The language of the preamble and final paragraph of the order, which top and tail sixteen sections from relevant Acts of 1596-1662, is striking, as is the fact that the policy should be enforced with such rigour in a period when demographic stagnation and labour shortage are often thought to have reduced the numbers of vagrants.⁸⁴ This is a particularly significant find because the minute books of the Quarter Sessions are lacking for this period, and the order does not appear in the enrolled papers of that session of the court.

It also illustrates the use made of the gathering of parishioners in church to disseminate policy and information on civil matters, such as the reading out of church briefs and proclamations, particularly relating to the poor. The registers of Odstock and Chute contain notes of the reading out of a royal proclamation about the Scottish rebellion in 1639.⁸⁵ But events in the church were not always of a religious or public nature. Indeed some are rather disquieting. A suspicious death in Corsham in 1727 led to an autopsy being carried out in the church, when Ann, wife of James Best, was 'cut open in the church Sposed for Murder'. The outcome is not recorded but three years later Millicent Burbidge was 'poisoned and cut open for a child in the church'.⁸⁶

CIVIL WAR AND THE COMMONWEALTH

It is inevitable that the upheavals of the mid 17th century should leave their mark in parish registers, and not just in the record of burials of combatants as in Chirton.⁸⁷ The register for Odstock appears to have fallen into a soldier's hands, who added a rhyming aphorism.⁸⁸

Records of the appointments of 'parish registers' (see above under The Registers) are found for over 100 parishes.⁸⁹ It is interesting to note that those register books with lacunae during the period of the Commonwealth were presumably retained by the old guard and that new registers kept by the parish registers have not survived. Bromham and Purton are just two of the many parishes with registers that date from 1653. The register for Rushall, on the other hand, is uninterrupted, and remained in the keeping of the incumbent throughout. In fact in fifteen parishes the incumbent was sworn in as parish register (see Appendix 3B). Evidence of continuity of officeholders is found in Grittleton and Marlborough St Mary, where registers continued as parish clerks into the 1680's.⁹⁰

Of the twenty eight county JPs who swore in the parish registers, eight carried out 73% of the business. (see Appendix 3A) They probably represent the hardcore amongst the commission of Justices of the Peace, actively supportive of the Commonwealth and willing to implement its policies within Wiltshire. Justices with Royalist leanings remained in office for the sake of maintaining law and order and the public good but were less inclined to enforce more radical government policies.

Such differences in register-keeping and the appointment of officials are thus indicators of the political and religious pulse of the parish and local gentry as JPs, and reveal the variety of the experience of these tumultuous national events on the lives of ordinary people. Historians are increasingly aware of the complexity of local allegiances, and 'the complex coalition of allies with

varying concerns and differing degrees of conviction and commitment'.⁹¹ The outbursts in the registers of Bishopstone (S Wilts) and Sutton Veny, against the local justices who performed marriage ceremonies after 1653, are both lively and informative, allowing the reader to experience the effects of national history at the most local level.⁹² The vehemence of the outpouring of John Ernle, rector of Everleigh in 1660 against his predecessor, albeit looking back from the security of the Restoration, nevertheless illustrates the strength of the feelings aroused by the republic established during the Commonwealth. The use of the present tense in the note in the Castle Eaton register, forewarning the reign of the Anabaptists, illustrates a more courageous voice, although with a cloak of anonymity, as the use of Latin somewhat limited the size of the contemporary audience.⁹³

DEMOGRAPHY

The 1695 tax on births, marriages and burials [see p.] provided the first national census, and the statistical data collected was used by Gregory King to produce his estimates of population totals. Unfortunately, very few of the full assessments survive.⁹⁴ The register of Donhead St Mary 1695-1702 includes the full assessment and records the status of all parishioners and the amounts of tax due. It is in effect a local census and the population of the parish in 1695 is stated, on the cover of the register, as being 814.⁹⁵

Before the introduction of the decennial census in 1801 and civil registration of births, marriages and deaths in 1837, parish registers were the most reliable source for population statistics. It is not surprising that clergymen took an interest in demographic research, and totals of baptisms, marriages and burial are frequently found in the registers, enabling population totals and trends to be calculated.⁹⁶

Thomas Meyler, rector of Marlborough St Peter and St Paul, responded to a circular letter from the Reverend John Howlett of Maidstone, Kent in 1782: 'who (as his letter set forth) was collecting materials to refute the gloomy and dispiriting accounts we repeatedly had of the depopulation of England and Wales, and to establish the opposite and more pleasing doctrine of the greatly increased number of our inhabitants since the revolution.'⁹⁷

Howlett was reacting to a thesis promoted by the philosopher and demographer Richard Price, that England and Wales were experiencing depopulation.⁹⁸ This had many supporters and his views on the increase of the population were developed by Thomas Malthus in his *Essay on the Principle of Population*, published in 1798, which set out the theory that the growth in population always outstripped food supply, but was restricted by checks, such as famine, wars and plagues. John Nichols, a Salisbury printer, was in the Howlett camp, and produced printed format baptismal and burial registers in 1780. In the preface to these he wrote 'It is hoped, that the clergymen of every parish will, at the end of the each year, cast up the baptisms and burials, from which it will appear whether the inhabitants increase or decrease. From many inquiries, indeed, made in different parts of the kingdom, it may be pronounced, that there is no foundation for the melancholy apprehensions

of many writers on this head.' He left pages in the books for memoranda and gave examples, and concluded, presciently, that 'such or like memoranda will, in time, perhaps, become considerably interesting to the parishioners of succeeding centuries, whilst making the entry cannot be considered as troublesome, even by the most indolent.'⁹⁹

Eighteen parishes purchased Nichols' registers and the use of the special memoranda pages is frankly disappointing, several giving grain prices and extreme weather from afar, all of which were gleaned from newspapers. The most informative are from Melksham, with details about the provision of two public wells and paved footways in the town.¹⁰⁰ It is almost as if the record keepers felt constrained by the regimen of bureaucratic neatness and order which inhibited their spontaneity and creativity: Anyway few made use of the opportunity presented.

Robert Parkes, who served as curate of Tidcombe for about five years from 1731, provides an informative analytical essay on the demography of his parish. He appreciated the pull of large cities for those eager for advancement, especially London, whose growth is in part 'owing to the produce of remote villages'. Written in his first year there, his sureness of detail is explained by the fact that he was a local man, from the nearby parish of Chilton Foliat.¹⁰¹

There has been much debate in recent years as to the completeness of parish registers, and thus their reliability for demographic studies, ranging from omissions, illegibility and destruction, both intentionally and as a result of neglect. The table of fees drawn up in 1676 for the parish clerk of Chilton Foliat, may hold a clue for omissions.¹⁰² He was entitled to a fee of 4d for entering a child's name in the register. For poor parents that may have been a price too high to ensure immortality for their children on the pages of the parish register.¹⁰³

THE NAPOLEONIC WARS AND THE DEFENCE OF THE REALM

Material from the registers is revealing about local response to the conflict and consequent threat of invasion. The names of those making 'Voluntary Contributions for the Defence of the Country' in 1798 are recorded for Lydiard Tregoze, Southbroom and Bishops Cannings, and Wroughton.¹⁰⁴ Deficiencies in the Wroughton list are explained by a bitter comment 'it appears that some of the richest farmers were so fond of their money that they would not contribute anything'. With commendable modesty Robert John Charleton, the compiler of the list, did not identify himself as the curate who donated a quarter of his salary.¹⁰⁵

A far more significant source is pasted into the register of Winterslow.¹⁰⁶ It is a statistical record of men able to serve, with the arms and equipment they could provide, livestock, crops, wagons and corn mills for the county, arranged by division, together with numbers of those who would require assistance in the event of a mass evacuation, aliens and Quakers. (The latter two groups were singled out because by inclination or conscience their willingness to fight was doubtful). Produced as a result of The Defence of the Realm Act, 1803, its insertion in the register must surely be due to the rector, Peter Bellinger

Brodie, who was also a Justice of the Peace and was thus fully aware of, and probably actively involved in the implementation of the arrangements. Thus an invaluable snapshot of the agricultural and military state of the county is provided which complements the crop returns for 1801 in the National Archives.¹⁰⁷ The aim of the scheme was to deny La Grande Armée access to provisions and equipment and, if implemented, would have led to the herding of all the livestock in Wiltshire, including 456,857 sheep and 65,000 cattle to Beckhampton Down, between Devizes and Avebury. This would have been an incredible spectacle to witness, if it had come to pass.¹⁰⁸

PARISHIONERS

Notwithstanding the range and importance of the notes and memoranda discussed above, the principal value of the registers is as a source of names and relationships of individuals over several centuries, providing a framework for reconstructing communities. They are a constant reminder that people should be at the centre of historical studies. Occasionally the outlines of individual lives are enhanced by observations by the incumbent on their character and circumstances. They provide compelling, if tantalisingly patchy, glimpses of the experiences of real people. The scathing obituary for Edward Hayward written in 1766 by Thomas Hewitt, vicar of Westbury is both revealing and fascinating.¹⁰⁹ Although somewhat trenchant and brusque, Hewitt's style nevertheless reflects the simple and direct attitude to death and life prevalent in the eighteenth century. His notes are particularly useful for the personal and historical detail they provide. For example, the widower John Bodmant died in January 1788 as a result of a blow he received from the turnpike gate he kept at Pipins bridge in Westbury Leigh, which caused a 'fungus' to grow under one of his eyes.¹¹⁰

The Broughton Gifford register records a fatal accident which must have seemed a terrible consequence of ill-spoken words. Isaac Bull, who had probably attended Lansdown Fair on 10 Aug 1713, 'was thrown off his hors on Landsown & dyd the next day his mother cursd at his going out, and wisht he might break his leg or nek before he came home. He mockt her, calling her snoching Bitch and other reproachful words'.¹¹¹ Such chance moments of reality recorded and preserved give the registers a vitality lifting them above mere lists of names. The registers are also revealing about attitudes to outsiders. When, in 1682 'happened a sad accident', and Francis Richens, committed suicide in Castle Eaton the rector described him as 'a person always reputed by all that knew him to be a sober, civil and honest man ... Lord Grant us Thy Preventing Grace.' Whereas from Britford 'A Jew found dead in a chalk pit Jan 26 1768. But was removed to London Feb 7'. Neither person would have received a Christian burial, but the compassion for a parishioner who had committed suicide contrasts somewhat harshly with the terse note about the Jew, whose name, Wolf Myers, was known at the inquest taken the same day.¹¹²

At the start of the register of Chilton Foliat, begun in 1705, the clerk wrote the following: 'Stel not this Book Good Jentel Frind, Lest Tiber be your Later End'.¹¹³ He meant to write Tyburn, the place of public execution in London, which became a generic name for a hanging place. But awareness

of the need to preserve the register is very clearly expressed, illustrating the significance of these books not only as a record of the baptisms, marriages and burials of the parishioners, but also as a chronicle of parish life and a repository of shared experience and communal knowledge for the benefit of both present and future generations.

EDITORIAL NOTE

All surviving registers of baptism, marriage and burial for Wiltshire parishes have been examined, including those now held, as a result of boundary changes, in the record offices of Hampshire and Gloucestershire. Kilmington, formerly in Somerset, is also covered more for the sake of completeness than historical exactitude. The total is in the region of 1270. A more precise figure is not offered because of the many instances where registers have been bound together while in parochial custody for better preservation and protection, and time taken to identify individual books was considered beyond the scope of this project. The focus has been to publish all memoranda and notes unrelated to the registration business of the registers. Those which embellish and inform baptismal, marriage and burial entries have been included, because of their significance beyond mere genealogical relevance, represent only a tiny percentage of the whole. They are some of the many that have come to light over a very long period of extensive research by many people, and should not be considered as an exhaustive collection.

Inevitably, there is a considerable variety of register books examined. The smallest, a mere pocket book for Inglesham, its pages measuring 13cm x 16cm, is dwarfed by Mildenhall, an impressive, if impracticable, 28.5cm x 60cm. The largest and heaviest is from Salisbury St Edmund, which weighs in at 6 kg. It is intriguing to contemplate in a time of constant change, the continuity and stability represented by the registers, such as the first East Knoyle one covering 1538–1812, which remained in regular use for over 200 years.

Formal agreements and notifications, such as appointments of parish registers and subscriptions of clergy to the 39 Articles of Faith of the Church of England, have been, at most, summarised, or lightly edited. For full examples of the election and swearing in of registers see Bromham and Lyneham, and for subscriptions see All Cannings and Langley Burrell. Notes of a more narrative style, particularly by literate clergymen have been treated more lightly; word patterns have been retained, with abbreviations extended, spellings (apart from surnames) and punctuation modernised, and dates converted to New Style. Although the American style of recording dates (month, day and year) was prevalent for much of the period covered, the modern English convention has been adopted. Notes that have been presented in their original form are indicated by quotation marks. Editorial interpolations are made in italics, in square brackets if within the text. Where possible the full Christian names of clergy have been sought from other sources, mainly bishops transcripts and diocesan visitation records; the extensions are given in []. Deletions > <, insertions < >, blank [-], illegible ...

As the registers generally are not paginated notes have not been precisely

located. Indeed they are generally presented in chronological order, although that does not always reflect their arrangement in the registers.

The term general register is used for composite registers of baptism, marriage and burial.

Material not included in the text:

For details of which the reader is directed to the catalogues (paper and online) in Wiltshire and Swindon Archives (WSA)

Lists of church briefs and sums collected; they are only published in the few instances in which contributors are named.

Details of local charities that are covered in the Charity Commissioners reports.

Copies of glebe terriers from the diocesan series. See WRS vol 56

Extensive series of churchwardens and overseers accounts. eg Donhead St Andrew and Donhead St Mary.

Extensive series of charity accounts; eg Keate's charity, Bishopstone North Wilts, 1752-1777 (1364/3)

Lists of rectors and vicars, if covered by Phillipps. Names of incumbents in the main body of the registers, eg from title pages or signing off each year's entries, have not been included. Lists of curates, who are not instituted and are thus more difficult to track down, are published. The Clergy of the Church of England database (CCEd) now provides a more complete record of clergy, but came too late to supplant Phillipps as the main source for the research for this volume. However there is much information in the text that adds to that of the database.

Lists of churchwardens, overseers and waywardens.

Dates of episcopal and archidiaconal visitations, where no further details are given.

Notes about national events that add nothing to what is known from other sources; eg Broad Hinton for events between 1647 and 1660, and Long Newnton for naval and military successes between 1704 and 1707.

NOTES TO INTRODUCTION

- 1 This is not to ignore the importance of parish registers for demographic historians, notably the Cambridge Group for the History of Population and Social Structure, but the predominantly statistical nature of their work precludes interest in much of the material published in this volume. In fact the Group's work has been considerably eased by the proliferation of transcripts of registers by Family History Societies.
- 2 See pp (intro), 207-210, 169-172, 282-5.
- 3 *The History of Parish Registers in England* by JS Burn (1828, 2nd ed 1862; republished 1976 EP Publishing Ltd) pp170-198.
- 4 *The Parish Registers of England* by JC Cox (Methuen 1910).
- 5 *Parish Chest* by WE Tate (Cambridge UP, 1946 + subsequent editions).
- 6 Letter to the vicar of Broad Hinton, 26 Oct 1885, 1505/96.
- 7 The relatively few registers remaining in parochial custody are bound by similar standards of security and environmental control as those in archival repositories. The drawbacks in the formats certainly apply to Wiltshire, although some Archive

- Services, like Dorset, have carried out the microfilming themselves, purely on the grounds of conservation, to a higher standard than that provided by the Mormon church, both in terms of quality and comprehensiveness. Dorset Archive Service has also catalogued notes and memoranda in the registers in great detail.
- 8 JS Burn believed that Cromwell was moved to act in part because the dissolution of monasteries had removed the numbers of literate monks who maintained the missals and psalters, in which baptisms and burials in some churches were kept. He underestimated the role of parish priests in maintaining such books, and the selective nature of the recording, but the link between the two is an interesting one. He also listed the relatively few instances of parishes with registers predating 1538. Burn op cit pp 10-13, 17-18 (for the text of the injunction).
 - 9 Each Sunday the names in the register were to be read out after morning and evening prayers; copies of the registers were to be made each Easter and sent to the bishop's registry. See *The Anglican Canons, 1529-1947*, edited by Gerald Bray (Church of England Record Society, vol 6 1998).
 - 10 Burn suggested that early 16th century examples of baptisms, marriages and burials in private journals and diaries of parochial clergy led naturally to the inclusion of miscellaneous memoranda in the registers; but this does appear to have been a seamless development and he probably pushed his case too far. Burn op cit p170.
 - 11 See pp 33, 150 for examples.
 - 12 See p 56 and *Chitterne; a Wiltshire Village* by Sue Robinson, Hobnob Press, 2007. The only other Wiltshire example of a union under this Act was between Malmesbury and Westport, whose church had been demolished. A1/110/1654E/177, A1/160/1/1654E.
 - 13 521/10.
 - 14 See pp 125.
 - 15 See p 90.
 - 16 The registers of Malmesbury state occupations of the people recorded between 1695-1705, 1589/6, 7. Those of Atworth, Broughton Gifford and Trowbridge, are among those recording the births and burials of nonconformists, 2070/1, 501/1-2, 608/2 respectively.
 - 17 Refer to subject index.
 - 18 For example Wroughton, 551/10, West Harnham, 1967/4.
 - 19 For example see page 19 for George Watts' induction in Bishopstone (South Wilts) 1746
 - 20 See p 11.
 - 21 WAM, vol 6 (1860) p18.
 - 22 See pp 37-8.
 - 23 See pp 86-7. The cottages in Westbury churchyard form the present property called Verger's Cottage, and included the church house, which was the vicarage until the late 17th century. In 1690 they had been assigned for the use of the poor, a gift acknowledged by them being freed of poor rates. The attempt by the overseers to claim rates for them from Hewitt led to a case in Chancery settled in 1759, whereby the overseers were required to hand them over to Hewitt. For the original agreements of 1690 and 1759 see 548/12 and 2223/2. Mention of the case was made in the burial records of the protagonists or associates by Hewitt, emphasising his implacable bitterness at the whole business.
 - 24 See pp 180. The year began on 25 March under the old style (pre 1752) calendar.
 - 25 See pp 205-6.
 - 26 See pp 16-17, 37-41.
 - 27 The account book is in the Cathedral archives, Press III Vicars Choral, Acc Reg

59. A brief note on it by the Cathedral librarian, Suzanne Eward was published in *Salisbury Cathedral News*, December 1991.
- 28 See p 228.
- 29 See pp 133-4.
- 30 See p 245; WRS vol 57 pp 119-120; WRS vol 56 inter al.
- 31 See pp 242, 253-4. Cases for Atworth and Preshute were heard at Petty Sessions and the Assizes respectively, see pages 12-13, 188-9.
- 32 *The Idler* no 11 (24 June 1758).
- 33 See pp 147-8.
- 34 See p 46.
- 35 See p 203; WRS vol 56 p 360.
- 36 See pp 99, 101. The Gregorian calendar was adopted in 1752, and in order to dovetail it into the existing Julian calendar 11 days were 'lost' in 1751.
- 37 See Subject Index; in particular Chute pp 62-3, 64-5; Shalbourne pp 204-5: For the custom of reading the gospel and for the evidence of the burial of a suicide, see page 62. The reading of the gospel at accustomed places along the parish boundary was not always treated with due respect. When John Coren, vicar of Box, stopped outside the house of Christopher Butler's in Rudlow on Procession Monday at Easter 1603, John Bull was heard to say in a 'skoffing & deriding manner "Now he reads to the plumbe tree". D1/42/22B fol 10r.
- 38 See pp 207-10.
- 39 See subject index, church fabric and furnishings.
- 40 See p 32.
- 41 See p 23.
- 42 See pp 74-9.
- 43 See pp 72, 121-3.
- 44 Examples of each, Shrewton p 221, North Tidworth pp 175-6.
- 45 See pp 227-8.
- 46 See pp 129-30.
- 47 See pp 92-4, 223. See *The Anglican Canons* op cit. The editor is grateful to Professor Kenneth Fincham for information on this point.
- 48 Archbishop George Abbot's Exhibit book, 1613, D1/53.
- 49 See pp 1-2. For the articles see D1/36/2/3.
- 50 See pp 187-8.
- 51 See pp 225-6.
- 52 The editor is grateful to Ann Willis who identified them. See subject index; they have not been transcribed.
- 53 See pp 44, 95, 185, 267-8.
- 54 See p 33.
- 55 1439/5.
- 56 John de Luke was parish clerk of Bramshaw and was succeeded by his brother Thomas, who by 1624, had been in office for 16 years, D24/8/2/1. Thomas Butler, clerk of Lyneham, who died aged 89 in 1789, was clerk in 1721. His son James, baptised in 1729, succeeded him in 1789, and remained in office for 48 years, until his death in 1836, 1161/2, 5, 7.
- 57 The portrait is reproduced in *The Parish Clerk* by PH Ditchfield (Methuen 1907). The original is in The National Gallery.
- 58 See Appendix 4.
- 59 See pp 82-4. It was published in *A Collection of Old Ballads* vol 1pp 23-27, by Ambrose Philips (J Roberts, London, 1723). Copy in the library of the University of California accessed via Google Books. In the preface to the ballad Philips wrote 'I should think my Collection very imperfect, was this old Panegyrick upon our

- English Saint and Patron to be omitted'. Characters include George Castriot Skanderbeg, king of Albania (1405-1468), and three early 17th century figures; Ambrogia Spinola, who took Breda in 1625, Maurice Nassau, Prince of Orange and Gustavus Adolphus, king of Sweden.
- 60 For example Orlando Furioso appears as orlandoruse (v2 line 4). V4 line 5 in the published version reads: 'Old William so fam'd the Conqueror he was named.' This is a rather clumsy insertion possibly made by Philips, which is unrelated to the rest of the verse, although it scans rather better. The full chorus in the published version is:
- 'St George he was for England, St Dennis he was for France.
Sing honi soit qui mal y pense.'
- 61 This assessment of the poem by Professor Ronald Hutton per email 8 Jan , 2006.
- 62 1597/1 and Devides St Mary Bishop's Transcript bundle 1.
- 63 See p 49.
- 64 See p 130-1.
- 65 See *The Anglican Canons* op cit.
- 66 See Subject Index.
- 67 See Deposition books, Bishop's court D1/42/22A f46-48, 22B f 1-4, D1/39/1/31. For Coren see Ingram p 110-11. Dawcock, a male Jackdaw, used here to mean a fool or sluggard. The letter cited in footnote 21 concerned the non payment of the wages of the clerk at Bramshaw.
- 68 See Subject Index under parish registers.
- 69 The front end paper in the first Beechingstoke register is a riot of scribbles that has the anarchic beauty of a work of modern art (1738/1). A similar page in the earliest register of Marlborough St Mary is largely taken up with an alphabetic code (1050/1). In an amusing take on the practising of hand writing, an endpaper in the Ogbourne St Andrew register has an outline of a left hand, possibly of John Seymour, who may have been the clerk (801/1). (See Appendix 4).
- 70 See pp 244.
- 71 See p 3.
- 72 See p 25.
- 73 See pp 26-7.
- 74 See pp 3-4, 130-1.
- 75 *Endowed Charities (County of Wilts)* HMSO 1908.
- 76 See p 8.
- 77 For a list of briefs from the registers of Langley Burrell see WAM 36 p 448ff. Wiltshire parish record finding aids are available online; wshc@eu.uk.
- 78 See pp 11-12.
- 79 See pp 150-2 and A1/160/1-2.
- 80 See pp 15-16, 48-9, 213.
- 81 See p 60.
- 82 See pp 44, 193, 204.
- 83 See p 124.
- 84 See pp 168-71 for full copy. The editor is grateful to Professor Steve Hindle for this assessment of the order, per email 20 Aug 2007.
- 85 See pp 61, 178-9.
- 86 See p 79.
- 87 See p 53.
- 88 See p 179. This verse is written on the cover of a diocesan court act book, 1613-1615 (D1/39/2/7) .
- 89 Several parishes have records of successive parish registers, and so the names of over 100 are included, which is a useful source for further research into this group.

- Although no evidence of the appointment of a register for Fittleton survives he can be identified as Robert Shergold who is described as parish register, in a marriage record in the Idmiston register for 13 Mar 1654. One of the parties was from Fittleton; in his burial record there in 1662 he is described as parish clerk.
- 90 See pp, 118, 158.
- 91 See Review by Graham Parry of *Archipelagic English: Literature, History, and Politics 1603-1707* by John Kerrigan, *The Guardian* 15 Mar 2008.
- 92 See pp 19, for Bishopstone, and 233 for Sutton Veny.
- 93 See pp 100, for Everleigh, 47 for Castle Eaton.
- 94 For assessments for 16 parishes in NE Wiltshire, around Swindon, 1697-1705 see 212B/7202A.
- 95 980/2.
- 96 The census report for 1801 included totals, by Hundreds, of baptisms, marriages and burials from 1700-1800; totals for subsequent decades were published in the census reports 1811-1831.
- 97 See pages 161. Similar returns were made for Preshute and West Dean; see pages 190, 264-5.
- 98 Revd John Howlett was an economist and writer on the poor. In 1797 he published *Dispersion of the gloomy apprehensions*. R. D. Sheldon, 'Howlett, John (1731-1804)', *Oxford Dictionary of National Biography*, (Oxford University Press, 2004).
- 99 See Appendix 1 for examples. Nichols' Proposed forms for Burials and Baptisms, that appear in his registers, were reviewed in *The Gentleman's Magazine* 1781 notes 71-2, pp 377-8.
- 100 See p 164.
- 101 See pp 235. For his dates see Bishops Transcripts, Tidcombe bundle 2 and AO.
- 102 See select bibliography.
- 103 See p 49. See also St Mary's Church, Worsbough, South Yorkshire: A Review of the Accuracy of a Parish Register. Dennis Ashurst, in *Local Population Studies*, 55, 1995 pp 46-57.
- 104 See pp 150, 214-5, 288.
- 105 Charleton described himself as minister in the marriage register (551/11). The vicar, James Merest, appointed curates to act as incumbent (VCH vol 11 p 250)
- 106 See pp 282-4. Part of these returns was overlooked on the first examination of the register. The pages and covers had been pierced, presumably for it to be tied down to prevent its use after 1812. The resulting chads, notorious in the US presidential election of 2000, had been tightly compressed and held down one of the pages.
- 107 TNA HO42/52-55; for the returns for West Dean see page 265.
- 108 For a brief account of this source and related material about the scheme for Wiltshire, see 'Home Guard: Preparations Against Invasion in the Salisbury Area 1803', by Steven Hobbs, in *Salisbury Chronicle* 6, 2006.
- 109 See p 263.
- 110 1427/8.
- 111 501/1.
- 112 See pp 29, 47-8.
- 113 See p 50.

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- Cressy David Cressy, *Birth, Marriage and Death: Ritual, Religion and the Life-Cycle in Tudor and Stuart England*, Oxford UP 1997.
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- Pew Rents *Wiltshire Pew Rents, vol 1*, Wiltshire Family History Society 1995
- PR transcript *Parish registers baptisms and burials pre 1837*, Wiltshire Family History Society
- PNW J E B Gover *et al* (ed.), *Place Names of Wiltshire*, English Place-Name Society, vol 16, Cambridge UP 1939
- Phillipps Sir Thomas Phillipps, *Institutiones Clericorum in Comitatu Wiltoniensis*, 1822.
- Tate W E Tate, *The Parish Chest*, Cambridge UP 1946 and later editions
- VCH *Victoria County History of Wiltshire*
- WAM *Wiltshire Archaeological and Natural History Magazine*
- WRS Wiltshire Record Society:
vol 20, *The Diary of Thomas Naish*

- vol 32, *Subscription book, 1620-1640*
 vol 36, *Wiltshire Coroners' bills, 1752-1796*
 vol 53, *Monumental Inscriptions of Wiltshire*
 [facsimile of Sir Thomas Phillipps' work, 1822]
 vol 56, *Wiltshire Glebe Terriers*
 vol 57, *Wiltshire Farming in the 17th Century*
 WN&Q Wiltshire Notes and Queries

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GLOSSARY

- Arbele, (Abele), White Poplar tree.
 Ball, rounded hill.
 Book of Life, the allegorical book in which God names all the righteous.
 By, small or minor.
 Callimancoe (Calamanco), Woollen cloth woven with satin twill.
 Coach quarter (timber).
 Consistory, a council chamber, here referring to the place in Corsham church where the court of the peculiar jurisdiction.
 Cottrell, a male sheep under one year.
 Dilapiations, expenses on repairs to a vicarage or parsonage that could be claimed by an incumbent from his predecessor's estate.
 Drock (well), windlass.
 Dwt, pennyweight, a sixteenth of an ounce, a measurement used with silver.
 Flackes (flax), in cock loft.
 Galoome (Galoon), narrow ribbon or braid of silver or gold used for trimming articles.
 Green tithes.
 Hive, head covering of plaited straw.
 Livier, one holding a tenement on lease.
 Loaving seat, this probably evidence of a pre- Reformation custom whereby the cost of providing the Holy Loaf (not for the Eucharist, but for distribution among the poor as a symbol of Christian brotherly love) was allocated to certain tenements; the seats in church belonging to these tenements then being so named. See Cox, pp 96-7.
 Ollet, fuel made from dung and straw.
 Panes, sections of a wall.
 Pinne, pin ridge on a building.
 Rag, shale or hard stone in thin layers.
 Scrub (fruit tree).
 Scruple, a small weight equal to 20 grains.
 Sequestration, the profits of a benefice secured on a vacancy for the successor.
 Skilling, cowshed.
 Stowles, (stools), tree stumps or boles.
 Shutining (shutting) splicing the ends of the bell ropes.
 Summer, a horizontal bearing beam.
 Tot, small amount.
 Towlsy, market.
 Water table, projecting ledge to throw off rainfall.

GLEANINGS FROM WILTSHIRE PARISH REGISTERS

ALDBOURNE

General register, 1637-1790 (526/2)

The earlier register was removed during the 'Revolution' [*English Civil War*] to St Omer [*France*]

Richard Fowler sworn as parish register before William Blissett, 29 Oct 1653.

'A copy of the Order sent from the Right Reverend father in God the Bishop of Sarum to the parish of Alborne for the placing of the Holy Table and administration of the holy Sacrament of the Lords supper: John, by divine providence Bishop of Sarum To the Curate and Church Wardens with the Parishioners of Awborne in the County of Wilts, and our diocese of Sarum greeting. Whereas his Majestie hath beene lately informed that some men factiously disposed, have taken upon themselves to place, and remove the Communion Table in the Church of Awborne, and there upon his highnes hath required me to take present order therein. These are to let you know, that both according to the Iniunctions given out in the Raigne of Queene Elizabeth for the placing of Communion Tables in Churches, and by the 82 Canon agreed upon in the first yeare of the Raigne of King James of blessed Memory, it was intimated that those Tables should ordinarily be sett and stand with the side to the East wall of the Chauncell. I therefore require you the Church Wardens, and all other persons, not to meddle with the bringing downe or transposing of the Communion Table, as you will answere it at your owne perill. And because some doe ignorantly suppose that the standing of the Communion Table where Altars stood in times of superstition has some relish of Popery: and some perchance may as erroneously conceive that the placing thereof otherwise when the holy Communion is administered savours of Irreverence, I would have you take notice from the forenamed Iniunction, and Canon, from the Rubricke prefixed before the administracion of the lords supper, and from the first Article not long since inquired of in the visitacion of our most Reverend Metropolitan [*Archbishop of Canterbury*], that the placing of it higher, or lower in the Chauncell, or in the Church, is by the iudgment of the Church of England a thing indifferent, and to be ordered and guided by the only Rule of Convenience. Now because in things of this nature to iudge and determine what is most convenient, belongs not to private persons, but to those that have Ecclesiasticall authority: I inhibit you the Church Wardens, and all other persons whatsoever to meddle with the bringinge downe of the Communion Table, or with altering the place thereof at such times as the holy supper is to be administered: and I require you herein to yeeld obedience

unto what is already iudged most convenient by my Chauncellor, unlesse upon further consideration and veive it shall be otherwise ordered. Now to the end that the Minister may neither be overtoyled, nor the people indecently and inconveniently thronged together, when they are to draw neire, and take the holy Sacrament, and that the frequent celebration thereof may neverthesse be continued, I doe further appoint that thrice in the yeare at the feast, there be publike notice given in the Church, for fower Communiones to be held upon fower Sundaies together, and that there come not to the Communion in one day above two hundred at the most. For the better observation wherof, and that every man may know his proper time, the Curate shall divide the Parishioners into fower parts according to his discretion, and as shall most fittingly serve to this purpose, and if any turbulent spirit shall disobey this our Order, hee shall be proceeded against accordingly to the quality of his fault, and misdemeanor. In Witness whereof I have hereunto set my hand and Seale Episcopall this seventeenth day of May 1637, And in the yeare of our Consecration the Sixteenth.'

Memo This register was bought and begun Anno 1637 in the month of March by the Reverend Mr Atkinson then minister of Auburn. In May the Bp of Sarum sent the order here copied by the said Mr Atkinson. *In a much later hand.*

List of vicars and curates.

First names supplied from bishops' registers, parish registers and bishops transcripts

Francis Atkinson, curate, 1637

John Norris, vicar, 1662: his monument is opposite the pulpit; buried March 1682

William Jackson, 1682, vicar, buried 30 Dec 1723

Joseph Seager, 1724; did not reside, died 1732

Robert Greenway, curate.

John Morris, vicar, 12 May 1732; left to work at Box, 1743; died at Box Jun 1774.

Caleb Colton, curate, signed the register 1763-1770

Edward Butt, vicar, Oct 1774; did not reside because master of Sarum school.

James Neale, curate, 26 Sep 1772; left 4 Apr 1792; went to Hungerford; died soon after and buried there. MA, Pembroke Hall, Cambridge.

William Mitchell, curate, 5 Apr 1792 until 14 Jun 1812.

Thomas Pruen, curate, 21 Jun 1812-Jun 1817; went to Dursley, Gloucs.

Morgan Williams, curate, 29 Jun 1817 *Licence dated 3 Jul 1823 [D1/8/1/15]*

30 Nov 1776, note by James Neale, about the numbers of baptisms and communicants: 26 baptisms in 1637, 51 in 1776; It is plain therefore that the great number of communicants in 1637, was owing to the piety, and not the populousness of the parish. And so great is the decay, that the number of seven or eight hundred, in 1772 was dwindled to thirty. Thomas Pruen's first sacrament 60 (number altered, 29, if exact) Easter Day, 18 Apr 1813.

ALDERBURY**General register, 1606-1671 (1966/1)**

Transcript made by William Brigg in 1887. The original is in the British Library Add Ms27441. A pew list for 1623 in the register was published in Pew Lists

Note that the register was exhibited in cases Zouch, plaintiff v Hanmer baronet and others, 5 Jan 1715/16 and 4 Jan 1717/18. *See also p 102.*

1 Mar 1619 licence granted to Mr Richard Goulstone and Mrs Jane Tooker to eat flesh during Lent, because of their ... and great age. John Elye, vicar, Henry Sanger, churchwarden.

24 Dec 1620 John Townson, bishop of Salisbury, ordained one minister and 3 deacons in Alderbury church, and then living in Ivychurch did divers times preach in the church at Alderbury. John Elye, vicar.

Alderbury, Whaddon, Pitton and Farley are one parish with one church and two chapels That is, the church of Alderbury and chapels of Pitton and Farley, so proved at the Assizes held at Salisbury 14 Jul 1634 in a trial between John Elye, vicar, defendant, and William Cooke of Farley, plaintiff, before Judge Denham.

Mr George Willowghby, who sometime lived in Alderbury but died in the East Indies, gave unto the poor of the parish in his will £9 20s? to John Elye, then vicar, who preached his funeral sermon on St George's day, 23 Apr 1639 and the money was paid 22nd May following.

Dr Edward Davenant, treasurer of Salisbury cathedral and patron of the vicarage of Alderbury, gave to the vicar £240, which bought 18 acres of ground in the common meadow valued at £10 pa and an annuity of 40s for £40 pa from sir John Evelin of Deane. The land and annuity were handed to John Bernard, then vicar, and his successors for ever, 23 Jun 1665

Tithe milk was taken in kind upon the living which belongs to Captain Bingham, now rented by Thomas Gardner 6 and 7 Aug 1725 by Edith Belbin, servant to Charles Dobson, then curate to Rev Mr Nathaniel Goodwin, vicar of Alderbury, Pitton and Farley.

Witnesses Charles Dobson, Ruth Ingram (X), Edith Belbin (X)

General register, 1667-1756 (1966/2)

Given by Gabriel Thistlethwayte, clerk, to the poor of Alderbury and Whaddon, most chiefly those that are not upon the parish poor rate, the remaining part of the yearly rent of the ground called the Ten Acres in your parish, be it more or less after the payment of two annuities, each fifty shillings per annum to Winterslow and Huish, to be constantly paid by order of the rector of Winterslow to the vicar of Alderbury or the overseers of the poor there every Easter to be disposed of as aforesaid according to the discretion of the

vicar with the advice of the churchwardens, overseers and chief inhabitants, at the church-reckoning. The vicar of Alderbury, now in being and for ever, is appointed one of the trustees with the rector of Winterslow, where the writings ever lie, so that upon all occasions he may resort thither and redress whatever may be amiss: and because this paper may easily wear out or be lost, it is at the request of the donor that this may be fairly recorded in a page of your parish register in perpetuum rei memoriam Gabriel Thistlethwayte [*rector of Winterslow*]. *Deed dated 1708 see Ch Com Rep.*

The residue or overplus remaining of the rent be more or less (all costs and charges being deducted) to be delivered to the vicar of Alderbury to be given according to his discretion to the poor of Alderbury and Whaddon; The yearly rent, £8; To Huish, £2 10s; Winterslow £2 10s; Catechism, £2 10s; Clerk, 2s 6d.

23 Apr 1744 An account of the small tithes in Alderbury: Due at Michaelmas [29 Sep] Beaches orchard, 2s 6d; Vincent, 2s; William Sims: Husseys: Lewis: Naise, £1 14s; Batten, 14s; John Bungy junior, 12s; Abraham Morris, 7s 6d; Windsor, £1 10s; Mr Court, 17s 3d; Mr Maton £1 19s; St Barbs or Mathews, £1 10s; Parsonage, £4.

Due at Easter: William Jed, 2s 6d; William Sansbury, 2s; Farmer Biggs, 7s; Mr Safe, 2s 6d; Mr Touton, 2s 6d; Mr Bungy senior, 5s; Mr Arnold, 9s 2d; Mary Philips, 1s 6d;

Richard Wholly, 1s 6d; Widow Drew, 2s; Spragg, 2s; Jefferis, 5s; John Peirce, 2s.

Mr Moody, £5s 3s 6d. Set for William Batten and John Bungy junior, £10 10s 8d per annum to be paid quarterly from Ladyday [25 Mar]. Mr Court to pay for Dobsons tithes 8s per annum several years. Total £11 9s 5d

ALDERTON

General register, 1654-1750 (1078/2)

John Jaques sworn as parish register before Nicholas Greene, 23 Mar 1654.

Be it remembered that in the year of our Lord one thousand seven hundred and sixteen Mrs Amy Gore (widow of Charles Gore esq, late lord of this manor) beautified the chancel of Alderton with a wainscot, altar piece, and with a communion table cloth and cushion, both of purple velvet embroidered with gold fringe, and also gave at the same time, for the use of the minister, when he administerth the Sacrament of the Lord's Sup per there, a large common prayer book, bound in turkey leather and neatly gilded, with strings of broad purple ribbon and gold fringe.

ALL CANNINGS

General register, 1578-1647 (1182/1)

'Memorandum that upon the xxi day of August 1625 the booke of Articles agreed upon in the convocacion holden at London in the year of our Lord 1562 were read by Robertt Byng, Master of Artes, and Parson of Allcannings

in the Counte of Wiltes in the parish church of Allcanninges aforesayd in the time of divine cervise, & that he the sayd Robert Byng haveinge here & there publickly & distinckly read all & every of the Articles in the booke aforesayd did openly declare his unfeyned assent & conceite therunto in the audience of the whole congregation then assembled. In testimonie whereof wee whose names are underwriten have put to our handes the day & yeare first above writen: Henry Higgons, curat. Mychaell Goughe, Jeffery Francis (X), churchwardens'

General register, 1653-1685 (1182/2)

1660; Record of the subscription of Henry Kinninmond, rector, to the Articles of religion made within a month of his institution and induction. Witnesses: Robert Nicholas, William Fowle

4 May 1669: Be it remembered that Henry Kinninmond, rector, did order his servant Robert Bartlet to put four cows into the pasture ground of the farm, and that the said Robert Bartlet did actually put to depasture his masters cows in every pasture ground where the farmer does usually put his cows to depasture except a ground called Awlands: This was done the day and year above written in the presence of us whose names are underwritten: Daniel Maslin, Jefferey Pottenger (X), Edward Dike, churchwardens

General register, 1710-1774 (1182/4)

An account of the gifts to the parish church:

1680 Given by Mrs Blanch Lloyd, widow, mother to the present rector, a fine large damask cloth and a napkin of the same for the communion table

1681 Given by Mrs Jane Smith a large fine purple cloth with a silk fringe for the communion table. She was the widow of Mr Michael Smith, formerly secretary to Dr Sheldon, archbishop of Canterbury

William Baldwin, rector, John Durnford, John Beake, Edward Nant, churchwardens

NB This memo was taken out of a register which was almost torn to pieces in the time of Mr George Stoodly, rector. *The note is in the hand of John Ernle, rector 1709-1733. George Stoodley was rector, 1681-1709, and the register is missing for 1685-1698. William Baldwin was rector 1678-1681.*

John Goodman, Robert Barrett, Stephen Maslen, churchwardens paid for this book 12s, 19 Jan 1710.

John Ernle was inducted into the rectory by John Shorthose, rector of Stanton St Bernard, 7 Jan 1710

Same for William Fowle MA by Michael Gough rector of Manningford Abbots, 7 May 1734.

Same for John Fullerton LLB by Henry Jaques, rector of Leigh Delamere, 27 Jun 1770.

ALLINGTON

General register, 1655-1812 (1068/2)

Stephen Rutt was sworn as parish register before Alexander Thistlethwayte, 31 May 1655.

ALTON BARNES

General register, 1592-1783 (496/1)

The register was used to record a wide range of parish matters; it includes churchwardens' accounts, 1628-1644, church briefs, ?1660-1717, and payments by the rector for unnamed poor travellers, 1630-1637; Ship Money assessments, 1636-1639 and a detailed series of payments, first to the royalist forces, [including those who fought at Roundway Hill in 1643], then parliamentarian forces in Devizes castle, 1644-1646, and the army generally to 1651, in which names of officers and governor of the garrisons at Devizes and Marlborough are given; and a tax assessment, 1690-1691. These are not included in this edition; a full transcript of these made by Thomas Gee in 1951 is available in the Wiltshire and Swindon History Centre, to which the reader is directed. However a selection has been extracted below from the Civil War and Ship Money entries and 1690 assessment.

1597 the titles of 12 ecclesiastical laws.

Ship Money, 1636: Mr Maukes, the farmer, £1 15s 6d; Mr South, rector, 16s 4d; Henry Benger, 12s 4d; Elizabeth Stone, 9s 2d; William Hall, 7s 6d; Richard Ring, 5s 6d

With a note that the parsonage was assessed by the constables, Henry Myles and Jeffery Frances at the rate of two yardlands at 12s 4d sufficient and that the strictest rate is 8s 8d, the tenth of the money (of the total for the parish), plus 6s 2d for one yardland, in total 14s 10d; the overplus was freely given by the rector.

When the forces of king Charles came this way to fight with Sir William Waller the sum imposed on Alton Barnes for his soldiers Jul 15 1643 by Prince Maurice was £8 9s: rated as a fine for aiding Sir William Waller as follows: The farm £3 7s 6d; the parsonage £1 9s; Elizabeth Benger £1 2s 6d; William Hall 16s 10 ½d; John Stone 16s 10 ½d; Ed Fowle 11s 3d; Alexander Babbage 2s 6d; Richard Bradfeild 2s 6d. So you have the first sum £8 9s.

There was appointed to be paid likewise before by virtue of a warrant and command from my lord marquis of Hertford for bread, flesh and hay for his army at the Devizes Jul 11 1643; 8s paid for shoeing the horses of my lord Wilmott and his troop Jul 15 1643 who lay in both Altons then 10s.

Captain Eyres being governor: Having newly paid contribution to the Parliament garrison at the Devizes 23 Oct 1645 a little after this warrant came: Having received a warrant from the governor of Farringdon by order to him directed from the council of war at Oxford beginning 3 Oct 1645 he requiring you in his majesty's name on sight hereof to levy and collect within your liberty one fortnight's contribution and to bring the same to the said garrison on 15th of this present Nov to such as he shall appoint for that service and to continue the weekly payment hereafter without further warrant hereof you

are not to fail at your peril; dated 9 Nov 1645; Thomas Dyke, constable. To the tithing man of Alton Barnes these.

These extracts highlight the difficulties presented to the parish by the financial demands placed on it by both sides of the conflict.

1690 Order made by eight commissioners (of tax) at Devizes that the rector should pay a fifth of the sums assessed on the whole parish. The order is laid up with the terrier and other papers belonging to the rectory.

1690 Assessors William Stone junior and Alexander Neate:

Mr Hill for the farm and freehold £7 5s; Mr Durston, rector, £2 16s; William Stone senior, £1 10s 8d; William Stone junior, £1 3s 8d; Mrs Maukes, £1 3s 8d

It was agreed heretofore the churchwardens should be chosen in order by the... and so it hath of late been observed in manner and form following: First the farmer Mr Maukes; 2 John Ringe, the freeholder; 3 Henry Benger, copyholder; 4 Widow Stone, copyholder; 5 William Hall, copyholder William Benger *inserted in front of first two names*. Always provided that if the rector for the time being shall not find the person coming in order fit he > ... allowed by the ... < may refuse him & choose another til a sufficient one be agreed by us. *Undated probably c 1635.*

1628 For Churchyard gates

Mr Doctor Linn, chancellor of Sarum, appointed that one should be maintained by the parson for the time being & the other by the parish as a fit passage for dead corpses and animate people to the church. This he expressed himself unto Mr Warner South, rector, Mr Anthony Maukes, farmer and William Hall, churchwarden. *Marmaduke Lynne was the bishop's chancellor.*

General register, 1783-1812 (496/3)

Internal measurements of Alton Barnes church viz the body; inside length 24ft 10 in., breadth 14ft 9in; the chancel length 15ft 3in., breadth 13ft 1in.

There is no path through the churchyard from the barton of the Great Farm. J Breerton. *Undated probably c1810.*

Alton Berners; Account of the Cottages & their Tenants in this Parish taken Jan 1812, beginning from the South & going by the Road to the last, viz the Cottage on the ground called Donnal's: (1) Thomas Popejaye, wife & 5 children. (2) Double house Pile's; John Swanbro, wife & -, George Selwood, wife & 6, Ann Robins spinster, - Brown spinster, by ?Betty Perry & 2. (3) Ditto; Benjamin Baily, wife. (4) His own; Jonathan Raymond wife & 2. (5) Parish; Betty Perry & 2, Benjamin Hams, wife & 1, Betty Dowse widow, Stephen Marshall wife & 3. (6) John Line wife & 1, Sarah Hicks. (7) Pile's His Own; John Miles wife & 1, James Dowse, wife & 1. (8) Thomas Dowse, wife 1 son 3 daughters grown up, William Brown wife & 5. (9) Neates ;Jane Offer widow. Cottages in 1870 *In the same order as the 1812 survey*: (1) Sarah widow of Maurice Pope & 4 children. (2) John Perry, wife & - children, rented by J

Perry. (3) Empty, William Swanborough & wife. (4) John Raymond, wife & - children and mother. (5) Robert Marshall, wife, 1 son & 1 grandson, George Doust, wife & - children. (6) Thomas Marshall, wife, George Hams, wife & 3 children. (7) George Neate, wife & - children, William Sherwood, wife. (8) John Doust, wife & 1 child and mother, Thomas Brown, 3 children & brother John. (9) Thomas Hamblen, Barnabas Marshall, wife & 2 children.

ALVEDISTON

General register, 1592-1713 (1052/13)

List of church goods, 1640; a bible & communion book; a fair surplice; a new carpet for the communion table and table cloth; a silver chalice & cover of the same; a pewter flagon; a pulpit cloth; a desk cloth for the pew.

AMESBURY

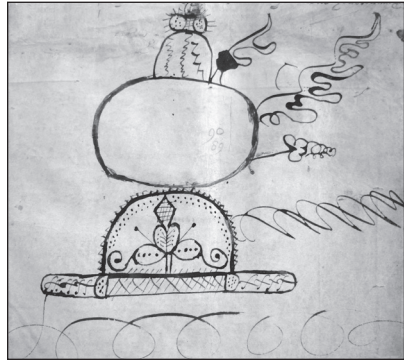
General register, 1579-1640 (1550/1)

A pass for William Clarke for a company of Irish, *c*1630

A pass for William Crawton, Mary his wife & child of Waterford and John Cornelis of Cork, 21 Jan 1631

A pass for Robert Prower and Ann his wife of Penzance, Cornwall, 5 Feb 1631

‘The 12th February 1601 Hugh Atwill, parson of St Tewe [*Ewe*] in Cornewall, gave 33s 4d for ever to keep the poore people of Amesbury in woorke, the stocke for ever to remain the gaines the poores; to be disposed by the masters of the Towne or fitt men of the parishe; this money is delivered to Robert Bundy now Constable by the said mr Atwill his messenger for which Robert Bundy together with Thomas Butler our minister gave him acquittance for the receipt thereof the day & yeare abovesaid accordinge to his request made by a note of his owne hand writtning and hereto annexed.’ *For a similar gift for the use of the poor of Devizes see Cunnington, and G20/1/16 f 200v.*



This note is a rather surreal doodle, like an exaggerated notarial mark, mid 17th cent.

ANSTY

General register, 1654-1744 (869/2)

Several persons have been buried in the small pox of whom I can give as yet no perfect account they being buried in the night time & some others that never made any affidavit & having no churchwardens I could never complain for I never saw the register until now. Robert Cary, 17 Apr 1718. Seen and

perused by us Edmund Lambert, Robert Hyde, H Coker. *Corpses were to be buried in woollen shrouds with an affidavit signed by two justices of the Peace under an Act of 1678.*

ASHLEY *Transferred to Gloucestershire in 1930.*

General register, 1664-1773 (GA P21 IN 1/1)

27 May 1692 John Giles, rector of [Long] Newnton was inducted into the church and rectory of Ashley by Mr John Scambler rector of Crudwell.

3 Apr 1709 Mr John Gwinnett MA was inducted into and took possession of the parish church of Ashley.

ASHTON KEYNES

General register, 1582-1675 (1430/1)

Richard Wall sworn as parish register before Gabriel Martyn, William Sadler, and William Blissett, 8 Apr 1654

Richard Wall sworn as parish register before William Sadler and Gabriel Martyn, 6 Dec 1658

Richard Vinson 23 Jan 1666

‘Richard Vinsentt
is my name and with
my pen I right the same
and if my pen had bin
better I would have
mend itt every
letter.’

General register, 1675-1748 (1430/2)

John Bennett silkweaver, being churchwarden in 1691 & 1692, set up a seat adjoining to the pulpit of his own cost & charge and have paid for five seats in the gallery set up in the same time twenty five shillings for them.

Burial register, 1687-1812 (1430/13)

We who names are hereunto subscribed having been lawfully assembled in a vestry 19 Aug 1719 did order a rate of 1s in the pound to be made and collected by Richard Turner, which money when so collected, is to be disposed of in cleansing the brooks and lakes in our commons at the discretion of Hawkins Chapman and Olliffe Richmond, esqs, Edmund Hinton, William Chapperlin Robert Jenkins, Jeremiah Selby and John Welsteed, yeomen, 20 Aug 1719. Witnesses: Chapman, Richmond, Hinton and Chapperlin, John Gwinnett vicar, Thomas Ferris.

The Accompts of all the Receipts and Disbursements concerning scouring the brooks in the parish of Ashton Keynes, 1719:

Received upon a rate of 1s in the pound (the sum of the rate is £22 13s 11d);

received of the rate £21 17s 11d; received of Edward Milard, constable, £3 2s 1¾ d; paid to Edward Jefferis & more labourers for cleansing the brook from Pye Corner down to Broad Hangman to be 20ft wide £2 5s; to John Pool and other labourers for scouring from that place down to the little lake in the hast 20ft wide, £1 10s; to Christopher Boulton and more labourers for scouring from that place to 3 Bridges 20 ft wide, 14s; to Henry Packer and 6 more labourers for scouring small lake from the flood gate at Mr Chapman's to the corner of the lake towards 3 Bridges 8ft wide, £4; to John Pool and Richard Pool for scouring from that place to the Middle Bridge of the 3 Bridges 8ft wide, £1 10s; to Christopher Boulton for scouring from the middle bridge 29½ luggs at 4d the lugg 8ft wide 9s 10d; to Thomas Portlock & more labourers for scouring next below 32 luggs at 4d the lugg 8ft wide, 10s 8d; to Thomas Kilmaster and more labourers for scouring from 3 Bridges to Wake ford 20ft wide, £2 15s; to Joseph Selby and more labourers for scouring from Wake ford to High bridge 20ft wide, £4; to Edward Jefferis junior and more labourers for scouring from High bridge to the Leigh mead half the brook, £2; to 7 labourers for scouring against the Leigh mead gate half the brook, 10s 6d; to Edward Jefferis junior for scouring the Lake from Wake ford to Woodluck bridge 47 luggs at 4½ d the lugg 8ft wide, 17s 7½d; to Edward Jefferis senior for scouring from Jenkins Corner to Woodluck bridge, 7s 6d; to William Brown and 6 labourers for scouring from Woodluck bridge to Cow bridge 20ft wide, £6; to Anthony Brown and 6 labourers for scouring from Cow bridge to the corner of the brook & towards Waterhay bridge half the brook, £1 15s; for writing the rate and accompts and collecting the rate, 5s. Total disbursed, £29 10s 1½d.

11 Jan 1789 Robert Biss, pauper buried. He was afflicted with a cancer for upwards of eleven years, which had consumed the greatest part of his Face: his forehead and part of his chin only remaining, and his tongue appearing in a very wide gap. What was very remarkable, he could take animal food, and was very sensible to the last moment.

20 Jan 1790 Thomas, son of Edward Arnold, widower of Somerford Keynes buried. He died Jan 18th aged 14 years. His death was occasioned by a fall from his Master's horse, Farmer Washbourn of Somerford Keynes, as he was returning from Cricklade to Somerford Keynes, by the turning of the saddle as the horse was going on a gallop, at or near the windmill in this parish on the highway leading to Cricklade; and was dragged from thence, by his foot being entangled in the stirrup, to a gate opening into Jeremiah Telling's pigsty near the workhouse in this parish; where the horse, endeavouring to leap over, broke the stirrup and left the Boy, a very dreadful sight: His head swelled bruised and bloody, his tongue hanging out, and his coat tore off his back. The distance that he was dragged is about a quarter of a mile. Medical assistance was immediately administered to him, but after giving two or three groans he expired. There was an Inquest held by the Coroner, when the Jury brought in their Verdict, Accidental Death. *The reference to this death in Coroners' Bills states that he died instantly. WRS vol 34 p108.*

Baptism register, 1749-1800 (1430/3)

Transcripts by William Lea Briscoe, vicar, of the documents relating to his ordination as deacon, 21 Sep 1783 and priest 3 Jul 1785 both by the bishops of Gloucester and Worcester, and his institution and induction into the vicarage of Ashton Keynes with Leigh, 26 & 27 Aug 1786, made 22 Mar 1794 [There is a similar note in the register for Leigh [1431/30]]; with a note that presentations, admissions and institutions are the life of advowsons and therefore if patrons suspect that the registrar of the bishop will be negligent in keeping of them, he may have a certiorari [a writ transferring a cause to a higher court] to the bishop to certify them into the chancery.

Transcript of the deed of the advowson of Ashton Keynes, the glebe, the vicarage house, and impropriate tithes of the manor of Leigh and Weekes farm in Leigh (c. 40a of pasture or meadow including Swans Lane Lot) by the trustees and relatives of the late Rev Thomas Croome Wickes, Tetbury, Gloucestershire to William Lea Briscoe, 12 Feb 1788

Genealogical notes on Revd Briscoe's family history, 18th cent. He was born 7 Mar 1760 at Halesowen Grange, Shropshire. Details of his academic career at Worcester College, Oxford.

Baptism register, 1800-1812 (1430/4)

Notes made 26 & 27 Aug 1809 by Dr William Lea Briscoe, vicar of his institution and induction into the vicarage. *As in the previous register.*

Note by the same that he paid the First Fruits and Tenths at the Tenths office, Middle Temple, London, 17 Nov 1786 and has paid it regularly since.

Note made 9 Jan 1810 by the same that he took the oath at Devizes sessions and qualified as a magistrate on 9 Jan 1798

The soil was removed and lowered all round the church and a fall made to drain and take off the water from the foundation of the church and the foundation and walls of the church were repaired and a new gravel walk was made to the chancel door, Jun 1812

The Gumstool bridge was taken down, rebuilt and lengthened. The cross was taken down, removed a few paces and rebuilt and a bridge built over the river Thames opposite to the vicarage house and a new carriage road was made from the Gumstool bridge to the mill, Jun 1812

ATWORTH

General register, 1645-1706 (2070/1)

John Woodman sworn as parish register before William Eyre, 22 Apr 1654

In the year 1656 John Taylor had 10s and the ?increase of has been paid for the relief of the poor paid to Grase Shepard and [?Thom]as Shepard the son of Bartholemew Sheperd 4 years 'youce' (use) and 2 years 'youce' to William Sheperd.

<In the year 1658 John Uncles and Thomas Pinchin had the church stock;

John Uncles had 40s and Thomas Pinchin had 40s, and the 'intrust' of the £4. They have paid for the relief of the poor to the poor ever since than have had it to the 31 May 1658, and then Thomas Pinchin and Robert Rogeres were overseers and churchwardens.>

Thomas Pinchin has paid to Thomas Shepard of Layes Shue... 2s 4d when he was sick for the year 1666, for the use of 40s and then he paid all he used which was ...

The churchwardens chosen Easter Monday 1663 for Atworth by the joint consent of John Davy, the curate (then being) and John Uncles and John Shepard, the old churchwardens, to serve for the year 1663 are Robert Rogeres and Thomas Wilsheire.

<31 May 1667 Remaining in the hands of Thomas Pinchin and John Sheppard churchwardens, the sum of £4, 40s the interest thereof to be for the relief of the poor of the said tithing, yearly to be paid; John Taylor senior having 10s upon the same account>

Thomas Pinchin had the rails that was in the chancel, giving therefore a ladder that stands in the tower with the parishioners' consent, 30 May 1670

Remaining in the hands of Thomas Willshear and Thomas Pinchin the sum of £4 which is the church stock and the 'intrust' [*interest*] to be paid to the church poor yearly; Thomas Pinchin has paid all his 'intrust' from the beginning to the year 1670; John Taylar has 10s upon the same account and he has paid in the 'intrust' upon the same account.

In the year 167... Thomas Willshear paid the 'youse' [*use*] to James Clarke and James Daves.

In the year 1671 June 24th Thomas Willshear paid in the 'youce' and 'prencepoll' [*principal*] to Robert Rogers, being then churchwarden with James Daves. Robert Rogers and James Daves being churchwardens for 1671 was out of 'youse' 8s 5d. Thomas Pinchin paid the use for the 40s 1676: Item I paid To Richard Hibbott 1s; item I paid Elizabeth <Shepperd> Flower widow 1s 4d.

John Tayler paid the use for the 10s, 1676 for three years past.

Richard Pinchin paid the use of the 40s 1677, 1678, 1680 and 1685.

Richard Pinchin paid all the use of his 40s to Thomas Selfe 1682.

Richard Pinchin paid all his 'yuse' for his 40s and the 40s too 28 Apr 1685.

John Woodman paid all the 'youse' of his 50s to Alice Longe: Item left in the hands of the old churchwardens, John Uncles and John Woodman, for the year 1681, the sum of 14s 10d.

General register, 1706-1747 (2070/2)

Memo: Mr Daniel Germain of Little Cheverell holds a small estate in Atworth with a wood called Home wood on which he has refused to pay tithe. He was summoned to a petty sessions at Trowbridge on 6 Apr 1711 by me William Skammel, curate, where Thomas Sartain, rector of Monkton Farleigh, proved

before Mr justice Savage, Mr justice Selfe and Mr justice Meriweather, that he had received such tithe two several times and that Mr Thomas Lewiss, then late vicar of Bradford had declared to him that he had also received the said tithe wood, also Mr justice Savage declared that Mr Lewiss had often told him that he had received the said tithe wood, whereupon the justices gave judgment that it was clearly proved a just due upon which Mr Germain submitted to it agreed the matter and paid me accordingly. Witness my hand William Skammel. Witness my hand Thomas Sartain, rector of Monkton Farleigh.

Home wood cut 1723/4, measured 4½ acres 31 poles; cut again 1733/4, sold at £4 10s per acre; cut again 1746/7, sold at £2 12s 6d. John Lewis, vicar, received tithe each time.

AVEBURY

General register, 1678-1765 (1176/1)

The Lady Holford gave £200 for a charity school at her decease. Blessed be her memory. *Written by the record of her burial 29 Mar 1723.*

General register, 1763-1812 (1176/2)

Note in Mar 1796 by Samuel Fowler, clerk, that the market price of wheat was £2 16s per sack, Winchester measure.

Note in Jul 1800 by William Fowler, clerk, that bread was 3s ½d per gallon and the price of wheat was £4 4s per sack and barley £3 per sack, Winchester measure.

I Lawrence Chivers chosen by the minister clerk of this parish promise to conduct myself soberly, honestly and in the fear of God, particularly to take care to avoid falling into that evil habit destructive to worldly prosperity, reputation, morality, and religion, frequenting Public Houses, and may God bless those and all my good endeavours by the aid of his Holy spirit thro Jesus Christ, 1 Jul 1810.

15 Feb 1837 Emma Glass, aged 17, found drowned, excited by malice and passion, and buried on the above day between the 9 & 12 o'clock privately; sine exequiis [*without funeral rites*].

BARFORD ST MARTIN

General register, 1653-1812 (1848/1) *A gathering of two books.*

John Honeywood, clerk, MA being presented to this living by the Warden and College of All Souls in the University of Oxford did read the Articles of Religion etc on Sunday 14th day of November 1779. This living became vacant on the death of the Revd Humphrey Henchman MA, who was the first person presented by the College in the year of our Lord 1759. Mr Henchman died 8 Aug 1779.

BAVERSTOCK**General register, 1559-1715 (1082/2)**

Undated records of subscription by Richard Birkbecke [1604] and Christopher Willoughby [1609]. *These are the first years of their incumbencies.*

Edward Ricketts tanner came to John Last, 25 Oct 1695. *Probably a reference to a hiring agreement.*

BEECHINGSTOKE

General register, 1566-1678 (1738/1) *The covers are full of names and doodles presumably by parish clerks and others practising their penmanship and signatures. See also p 293.*

Richard Addames sworn as parish register, 6 Feb 1654. *Unsigned.*

The quarterly rate of Beechingstoke for the relief of two orphans:

Richard Woodroofe, 2s 4d; Mr William Awst, parson, 12d; Alice Lavington widow, 10d; John Lavington, 4d; Thomas Hayward and John, 5d; Richard Burde, 10d; Thomas Springbat, 6d; John Adams, 4d; Richard Hayward, 2d; Stephen Smyth, 8d; Thomas Myles, 8d; Thomas Burrey, 4d; Andrew Smyth, 4d. Total 8s 9d.

Memo: 6 Nov 1642 the Overseers of the Poor due 6s 3d from the parish.

1643 A record of the seats of the men and women as they were placed in the parish church of Beechingstoke:

The farm of Puck-Shippen: The two uppermost seats of the men and a seat adjoining to the pew. Women's seats: In the uppermost north side, one, in the next one.

Stocke [*Beechingstoke*]: The mens' seat southward: Widow Springebat's tenement; one seat in the uppermost. Thomas Hayward; one seat in the uppermost and one in the lowermost. William Barnes, one seat in the uppermost. Widow Addams, one seat in the lowest. John Moore's tenement, one seat in the lowermost.

Botwell [*Bottle farm*]: Mens' seats southward: William Button's tenement, one seat in the uppermost. Widow Clarke's tenement, one seat in the uppermost. William Myles' tenement, one seat in the lowermost. William Bonde, sede vacante [*seat vacant*] paid 10 groats for a seat in the lowermost.

Stocke: The mens' seats southward: In the two lower seats; John Hayward in the middle seat. Thomas Burrow in the middle seat, one. Richard Addames in the lowest seat, one.

General register, 1737-1812 (1738/3)

Dr Mead's Receipt to cure the bite of a mad dog.

Let the patient bleed 9 or 10 ounces at the arm: Take of the herb called in Latin *Lichen cinereus terrestris* (This lichen etc is called in this country Star of the Earth) in English Ash coloured ground Liver Wort, clean, dried & powdered, half an ounce; of black pepper powdered, two drams; mix these

well together & divide the powder into 4 doses, one of which must be taken every morning, fasting for 4 mornings successively, in half a pint of cow's milk warm; after these 4 doses are taken the patient must go into the cold bath every morning fasting for a month; he must be dipt all over, but not stay in with his head above above half a minute if the water be very cold; after this he must go in three times a week for a fortnight longer. NB The right time to gather the Lichen cinereus etc is in the months October & November.

AN INFALLIBLE CURE for the
BITE of a MAD-DOG,
 Brought from TONQUIN
 By Sir **GEORGE COBB**, Bart.

Take 24 Grains of *Native Cinnabar*, 24 Grains of *Facilitious Cinnabar*, and 16 Grains of *Musk* :

Grind all these together into an exceeding fine Powder, and put it into a small Tea-Cup of Arrack, Rum or Brandy; let it be well mix'd, and give it the Person as soon as possible, after the Bite; a Second Dose of the same must be repeated thirty Days after; and a Third may be taken in thirty Days more: But if the Symptoms of Madnes appear on the Persons, they must take One of the above Doses immediately, and a Second in an Hour after; and, if wanted, a Third must be given a few Hours afterwards.

N. B. The above Recipe is calculated for a full grown Person, but must be given to Children in smaller Quantities, in Proportion to their Ages.

☞ This MEDICINE has been given to Hundreds with Success, and Sir GEORGE COBB, himself has cured two Persons, who had the Symptoms of Madnes upon them.

* * If in the Madnes they can't take it in Liquid, make it up into a Bolus, with Honey; after the two first Doses, let it be repeated every three or four Hours, 'till the Patient be recover'd: This Repetition to be omitted unless necessary.

N. B. Take all imaginable Care that the Musk be genuine.

Pasted into the register, c1755

Lord Blakeney's receipt for the yellow Jaundice which he said he never knew to fail, from the News paper Jan 11th 1763: Take the white of an egg & two glasses of spring water, beat them well together & drink it all of at a draught.

11 May 1753; Edward Knight and his wife and six children were brought from Wilsford by an order of Mr Talbot and Mr Head [*justices of the peace*]. The parish of Beechingstoke appealed against the order by the advice of Mr Solomon Hughes, attorney of Devizes and gave notice of trial. It was then agreed between the two parishes of Wilsford & Beechingstoke that Knight and his family should be removed back again to Wilsford & there received & acknowledged as legal parishioners & that each parish should pay the expenses they had been at for counsel etc.

The case was that Knight bargained with Mr Dicker to serve as an under carter at his farm at Puckshipton for a year & he performed his service & received his year's wages but as he had his lodging and diet at Wilsford and

never lodged 40 days in the parish of Beechingstoke counsellor Garth gave it as his opinion that his service had not gained him a legal settlement & upon this opinion the parish of Wilsford did not think it fit to stand a trial; & the parish officers of Wilsford signed a paper wherein they agreed that the Justices' order should be quashed and that no future order for the same family should be applied for & the parish of Beechingstoke signed a paper wherein they promised to discharge all their own expenses. These papers were signed 9th Jul 1753 & I was witness to the signing, John Mayo.

Memo tho' any marriage where either or both the parties is under age (unless the consent of parents or guardians be had) is declared to be null & void. Yet I don't find any penalty by this Act [*Hardwicke's Act of 1753*] on the minister who shall celebrate such marriage. Quare whether there is any penalty by any other Act?

Note in the hand of John Mayo rector: At Michaelmas 1753 I entered upon my parsonage and became farmer and had the first year about 50 quarters of wheat upon the glebe lands and tithe. I went to Devizes market and sold the corn myself and constantly attended all the tithing of hay and corn.

I always had without any dispute the tithe ... the second crop of clover and meadow grass if it was second time

1757 about Midsummer Farmer Drewett of Puckshipton and I had a dispute about tithing of hay; he refused to give me the liberty of taking it by ten in a parcel & insisted upon my taking every tenth grass-cock; upon this I obliged him to set out his tithe himself and he was obliged to give me very civil words before I would tithe any of his corn. I always sent my cart and horses to do the statute labour on the highways.

In the year 1755 I was nominated a commissioner of the Land Tax and in the year 1757 I acted with Mr Poore of Rushall, Mr Shergold, rector of Little Cheverell, and Squire War[riner] of Conock.

In the year 1756 I served in person as surveyor of the Highways and caused a coach quarter to be cut from [L]imber stone to Cutnam coppice. *Limberstone is mentioned in presentment to Quarter Sessions, 1673, A1/1673M 90*

At Michaelmas 1757 upon an accurate survey of my accounts I found that in the 4 years which I had it in kind the parsonage had brought me in £370 and [up]wards more than the rent.

Tis the custom of this parish to have the tithe wheat, one sheaf out of a shock and not to have the tithe sheaf thrown out by the farmer. I never had any tithe calf.

The Land Tax of the parsonage is £6 13s 8d per annum; it was settled by appeal before William Hunt esq., John Shergold, clerk, Francis Mereweather gent, 2 Sep 1752 at [Market] Lavington.

My father bought the next presentation of Mr Walker. The incumbent then was one Mr [John] Chapman of Bath, who was then so healthy and strong a man that my father's best friends told him that Mr Chapman's life was as good as mine, but in less than two years after the purchase (viz. May 1737) Mr Chapman died. I was then in my 24th year in the month of November, the year I was instituted and inducted and when I came to see the parsonage

and the buildings etc I found everything in the greatest degree ... repair, the usual consequence of non residence; the house within 3 perch of the brook and the ground ... very little above the level of the water when Puckshipton hatch was shut to water the meads; the chancel windows ?excessively bad. The barn without floors and scarce any thatch: The inclosure without gates, stiles or hedges or trees. In the year 1743 I began building the parsonage house and finished it entirely at my own expence without demanding or receiving anything from Mr Chapman's executors for dilapidations. In the year 1744 I came with my family to reside in my new house. When first I took possession of the living I found that Puckshipton farm had so long paid a sum of money about £25 for tithes that they would fain have pleaded custom. But I let the parsonage all together to one person James Knight for £112 for 3 years. I then let it after that term was expired for 3 years more to 3 persons for £105. After that for 9 years for £101, reserving to myself house, orchard, churchyard and withy bed adjoining and also the wood. When that lease was expired I took it into my hands, bought some timber and built the stavell barn for my wheat. The east end of the barn is the ancient bounds of the parsonage ground but in the year 1746 with leave of the dean of Winchester I took the liberty of building a stable for my riding horse; there being but one stable before. I had the chancel window glazed and new ceiled and my seat there enlarged at my own expence. ... the churchyard was so full of nettles that they even peeped (up) at the windows of the church and chancel. These have been with much labour destroyed. I planted the two rows of trees from the church down to the Devizes road [*Elms planted 1 Nov 1749 in another note in the register*] and put up the rails there and procured the churchyard rails to be put up by the parish. *This obligation towards the rails is referred to in the 1808 glebe terrier; see WRS vol 56 p24*

The field was laid in severalty 1789. *This is a reference to the enclosure of the common field under the enclosure award of 1793 EA/37.*

The chancel rebuilt 1791 by Charles Mayo

BERWICK BASSETT

General register, 1751-1812 (1176/16)

Receipt to Charles Prowse for payment of 6s 8d towards an aid for the war, 1800. Thomas Harding collector. *Interleaved in the register.*

BERWICK ST JAMES

General register 1731-1800 (2090/2)

Note taken from part of an old register [*no longer extant*] Mary Simmons wilfully hung herself, 20 Jul 1680. Thomas Blanchard.

General register, 1801-1812 (2090/3)

John Mathews vicar, Thomas Miles churchwarden and overseer, John Goodwin overseer, Joseph Gould, parish clerk, 1 Jan 1801. *On title page.*

BERWICK ST JOHN

General register, 1712-1812 (1764/3)

For persons extraparochial married here by licences see the other register.
Written after the marriages for 1727.

2 Aug 1746 Mr Gane left to the succeeding rectors of a stone trough which is now at one of the combes belonging to the rectory. *Revd John Gane, rector, died in 1747.*

27 Jan 1755 Mrs Elizabeth Lydiatt gave a communion table cloth and two napkins and desires they may be kept in the parsonage house. At the same time she left a picture of William of Wykeham to continue in the house for future successors, given to the late rector by Dr Bouchier. *Mrs Lydiatt was probably the widow of Richard Lydiatt, rector, who both died in 1755.*

BISHOPS CANNINGS

General register, 1591-1653 (596/1)

'The Regester booke of Bishops Cannings per me Edward Asheley, 1607'

General register, 1651-1702 (596/2)

I did new lay and point the tiles of my house and built the kitchen and chamber chimneys in the year 1663. Thomas Ettwall, vicar.

Thomas Merrett sworn as parish register before Thomas Eyre, 10 Oct 1653

General register, 1737-1783 (596/4)

Names of the several persons to whom George Ruddle's legacy of £5 was distributed, 24 Dec 1740: Thomas Stephens, 7s; William Widders, 3s; Mary Wait, 3s; John Acreman, 2s; John Hibbard, 2s; Philip Harris, 2s; John Wiltshire, 5s 6d; John Wait, 5s; Thomas Drew, 2s; John Hillier, 4s; Ralph Hazel, 5s 6d; John Mobat, 5s; Humphrey Hillier, 5s; Anne Stephens, 2s 6d; Robert Stephens, 2s 6d; Robert Offer, 3s; Charles Andrews, 6s; John Hibbard, 2s; John Minty, 3s; Arthur Hood, 2s; Robert Offer, 5s; Elizabeth Wait, 4s; John Stephens, 4s; Abel Cains, 3s; John Cains, 2s; Thomas Stephens, 3s; John West, 5s; Robert Woodrolf, 2s. We certify that the £5 given by the late George Ruddle of Urchfont by will was distributed to the above mentioned persons according to the instructions given us by Thomas Chandler of Woodborough trustee to the will of the said George Ruddle. John Cox, J Waterman vicar, William Cox overseer. *Jonathan Waterman was instituted into the vicarage in 1720 [D24/1/7].*

Burial register, 1798-1812 (596/8)

John Weston clerk and sexton 1775.

BISHOPSTONE (NORTH WILTS)**General register, 1573-1675 (1364/1)**

Thomas Wilson sworn as parish register before Gabriel Martyn, William Sadler, 3 Apr 1654.

Be it remembered that an agreement made between Mr Nathaniel Wilson and Mr John Lydiard for the tithes of Clinch at the rent of £45 pa for a term of 21 years. Witness our hands, 2 Apr 1764, if approved by the trustees, John Liddiard. Memo a lease to be drawn for 21 years. *Paper pasted into the register.*

General register, 1730-1812 (1364/4)

Memo; George Watts MA, a preacher of Lincolns' Inn, prebendary of York and rector of Orcheston St Mary, inducted into the church [*as vicar*], 8 Apr 1746. Powis Lloyd MA inducted 6 Jul 1751; came to live in the vicarage house 21 Jan 1752.

BISHOPSTONE (SOUTH WILTS)**General register, 1636-1701 (577/1)**

Upon a certificate under the hands of many of the inhabitants of the parish of Bishopstone (which inhabitants are my neighbours and well known to me) that William Barter was chosen their parish register. I Edward Manning, one of the justices of the Peace for the county of Wilts, did on the 3rd Apr 1654 administer the oath.

William Barter was sworn at Sarum long before the date hereof before Mr Tucker but because it was not entered in this book he was again sworn.

'From a Justice of Peace turn'd a marrying prist
from a Register of his with a pittiful full Fist, Libero nos Domine' [*Save us O Lord*]
Written underneath the first marriage performed by Edward Manning JP, 14 Mar 1654. The register refers to the elected registrar, presumably William Barter [see above].

Gift of Dr Earle of 3 gilded patens or plates for the communion and two communion gilded cups to the parish. These and an ancient paten and cup for communion are in the churchwardens' [keeping]

The lady Dorothy Gorges gave a fair velvet communion table cloth and a fair velvet cushion and pulpit cloth to this parish which are now in use this 1 May 1685 in the clerk's keeping. The 5 patens or plates and 2 cups of Dr Earle's gift and the old paten and cup are in the churchwardens' keeping. *Dr. John Earl, rector, 1639-1662, then bishop of Salisbury.*

John Younger DD, chaplain to the princess of Denmark inducted into the rectory 7 May 1688.

BISHOPSTROW**General register, 1686-1812 (621/2)**

Poor rate, 6 Apr 1713: Mr Temple, 7s 10d; Mr Gifford, 4s 7d; Hoggards, 1s 5d; Parsonage, 3s; William Stokes, 10 ½ d; Thomas Mills, 6d; Hinton, 5d; J. French, 4½ d; Henry Aldridge, 4d; Widow Chivers, 4d; Thomas Edwards, 3d; Edmund Wickham, 2½ d; Thomas Marsh Ten Acres, 2d; Old Langlies, 2½ d; William Player, 2d; Jo. Mathews, 2d; South Close, 2d; Robert Grant, 1½ d; Thomas Pryor, 1d; William Swetman, 1d: Total 21s 3½ d

BLUNSDON ST ANDREW

General register, 1650-1812 (1564/1)

Henry Greene, pastor of Little Blunsdon, sworn as parish register before Robert Hippisley, 1 Jan 1654

BOSCOMBE

General register, 1696-1782 (1068/21)

Memo: In 1709 the parish church and chancel were paved, ceiled and whitened; new seats and doors set up in the chancel; and the seats in church and chancel, boarded at the bottom; the chancel above the step paved with black and white stone, and wainscotted; a new communion table made; the pulpit moved and a new canopy made; the reading desk enlarged and made more convenient etc. for which contributions were obtained by F[ran]cis Fox, MA, then rector, of the following persons most of them living in and near London. A person of quality £10; Sir Charles Duncombe, £10; John Chamberlayne esq £5; Mr H Hoare, 5 guineas; Mrs Jane Hoare, 1 guinea; John Meller esq 1 guinea; Dr Slare 1 guinea; Mr Vigerus Edwards 1 guinea; [-] Orlebar esq 1 guinea; Dr Mapleton 2 guineas; Mr Patten 1 guinea; Robert Nelson esq 2 guineas; Mr William Gardner 1 guinea; Mr J Holmes 1 guinea; Mr J Trollop 1 guinea; Mr Peter Joy 3 guineas; Mr James Townsend 1 guinea; Sir John Phillips 1 guinea; Mr Warder 1 guinea; Several other persons likewise contributed smaller sums, the whole amounted to upwards of £60.

William Benson esq of Newton Tony gave the wainscot in the chancel.

In 1709 a set of communion plate, the fine standard, and cases to preserve it were bought for the use of the parish of Boscombe, and a small pewter dish to collect the alms of the people in.

Memo: The old plate and a pewter flagon were sold for two pound eleven shillings, Mr Robert Freemantle gave ten shillings, Widow Day two shillings and John Kent esq five pounds. The rest came out of the contributions above mentioned, saving one pound seven shillings given by Mr Henry Hoare. The plate, cases engraving and pewter dish came to sixteen pound seventeen shillings.

Memo: In 1719 Robert Eyres, Henry Yates, Widow Perring and Widow Snell were chosen into the almshouse of Boscombe by Thomas Salway minister, Robert Kent overseer of the Poor and Farmer Carpenter churchwarden. *This was the almshouse set up under the will of John Kent of Boscombe, proved 1710.*

BOX**General register, 1538-1650 (1789/1)**

Note of appointment of John Coren as perpetual vicar, 1 Sep 1590, and of his affirmation of the Articles of faith, declared in the church, 28 Sep 1590 before John Wattes, John Simondes, William Nowell, Peter Webbe, and many more.

'Follow not the ammorous for they are humorous
Follow not the humorous for they are dangerous
But all wayes accompagny the verteous'. Henry Arlett, [*parish*] clerk, 1682

Note of agreement, 6 Sep 1602, by the vicar and parishioners that Richard Marsh, clerk, may live and remain in the church house, confirmed at the Bull next to the church, 3 Oct 1602. Witnesses: Richard Marsh, John Coren vicar, Henry Longe, Peter Webb, William Chapman, William Pinchion; William Butler, John Newman, churchwardens; Thomas Simpison, Henry Love, Phillip Champiun, Henry Taylor, John Taylor, John Hancocke, Richard Butler, Richard Nicholes, William Vincey, William Coape, William Bucher, ...Joanes, ... Baylie, Walter Tiler, Anthony Tiler, William Nowell, John Hardinge, Anthony Forde.

This note in Latin is extremely faded and rubbed. Marsh was parish clerk. Coren was, by all accounts, a disreputable character. [See Intro p and Ingram p110-11]; after the record of a baptism on 2 Dec 1599 is the note on the same day we disputed with John Bohwell and on the Saturday went out with an armed guard.

General register, 1644-1754 (1789/2)

10 Mar 1650. Memo of the agreement between George Speke esq, inappropriate rector, Hugh Speke, his son, and Walter Bushnell, vicar and Charles Snel, Box, gent.; Snell is to have a seat on the south side of the chancel adjoining the screen; the door on the south side of the chancel is to be unlocked (the key is kept by the parish clerk), and be set open against the time of Divine service, for his use. His present seat, which is next to that of George Speke, is given to Speke.

Peter Raynolds chosen as parish register on 11 Apr 1654, was sworn before William Eyre, 19 Apr 1654.

Memo that Jacob Filkes, vicar had quiet possession of the parish church and vicarage house of Box this 23 Aug 1672, in the presence of John Adams, rector of Monkton Farleigh, William Eyre, Thomas Ford, John Wittes, churchwarden, John Bayly, Thomas Stevens, Thomas Simpison, William Ralines, John Lancaster, Peter Rainales, Mary Trotman (X), Samuel Trotman.

'the price of this Book is 12 shillins there is 9 skins at one shillin per skin 3 shillins Binding and Clasping. March 30 1689 this book then bought at 11s price by Mr Thomas Goddard & Robert Powell, churchwardens.' *Entries from 1644 were copied into this register.*

Memo that on the 17 Sep 1707 George Millard, vicar, had induction given him into the parish church by Mr Benjamin Griffin, vicar of Colerne. Witnesses: Thomas Bayly, John Bayly, John Nutt, John Rawlings, John Nicholls and others. *Not signatures.*

21 Jul 1721. Note that Michael Bayly's headstone was moved 7in. to the south and that it belongs to the flatstone which lies directly in the path from east to west. Daniel Baker's head and foot stones were moved each 6in. to the south. The two headstones lying eastward from Daniel Baker's were moved each 10in. to the south; both the headstone and footstone, which belong (or I suppose) to Anthony Drewett. NB John son of Anthony Drewett baptised 13 May 1705, and buried 30 Jul 1705. *A note pinned into the register, relating to minor realignment of gravestones in the churchyard.*

General register, 1754-1785 (1789/3)

Mottoes on the church bells explained by Mr Gunning, attorney, Bath, 1784: 1st bell AD 1617; 2nd All praise be given to God one in three; 3rd Saint Catherine pray for us r+t; 4th Praise be given to God one in three throughout all ages 1610

General register, 1783-1812 (1789/4)

Duty received for burials, marriages and births from 2 Oct 1783 to 2 Oct 1789;

For 92 burials, marriages and births entered on stamps £1 3s

56 burials, 38 marriages, 117 births, duty £2 12s 9d

2 Oct 1789 to 2 Oct 1790 20 burials, 8 marriages, 23 births, duty 12s 9d

Total collected £4 8s 6d

Paid at the Stamp Office in London for 92 stamps £1 3s

24 Apr 1790 paid at Mr Salmon's office in Devizes £2 12s 9d

Poundage of 2s in the pound for collecting the above sum of 8s 10d

£4 8s 6d

16 Aug 1791 balance herewith sent to Mrs Warne's at Chippenham 3s 11d

£4 8s 6d

This is a rare example of how revenue under The Stamp Act of 1783 was collected and paid. That act granted the Crown a stamp duty of 3d for every register entry of a burial, marriage and birth or christening, the officiating minister who collected the duty being allowed a commission for his trouble. There is a similar account for the years 1790-1792. The Act was repealed in 1794.

BOYTON

General register, 1560-1711 (1507/2)

Mr Martins account: Item from old Mr Martin 5s; from Mr Minor 2s; his brother 1s 8d; for cows . . . ; for calves 8d; for 3 bushells of wheat 10s; Total £1 1s.

Memo of the subscription of William Mervin MA, rector, to the 39 Articles in the parish church, 28 May 1610, before Henry Gregorie, John Ambrose, Ralph Dyer, Edward Arnold, Thomas Wattes, George Sly, Tristram Moodye,

Edward Arnold, Henry Lacoche, Walter Dewdall (X), Richard Moody (X), Thomas Robbins (X). Simon Potticary (X)

1646 Johannes Yarner pastor Boytonensis pro tempore nuperrime minister Andoveriensis. *John Yarner pastor of Boyton for the time most recently minister of Andover, Hampshire. He signed the register as curate; a note that he was ejected is written in margin between Jul and Aug 1650.*

29 Oct 1651 memo that I, Thomas Lambert MA, was presented and inducted into the rectory of Boyton. *William Mervin rector was buried 15 Aug 1651. He signed the register for 1650 with William Hone of Horningham curate.*

General register, 1653-1658 (1507/3)

Thomas Parker of Boyton, chosen as parish register by a certificate dated 21 Sep 1653, sworn before Edward Michell, 29 Dec 1653.

General register, 1711-1752 (1507/4)

Register book bought of Mr Langford, bookseller, in Warminster by William White, churchwarden, 1711, price 10s.

BRADFORD ON AVON

General register, 1579-1653 (883/1)

'M . . . that the xvith of January A... 1610 [*New style 1611*] ... at twoe of the clock in the same morninge ... of the stones with the weathercock was blown down and tumbled upon the leades of the Church; the south wyndowe of the tower upon the ... therof pitifully torne the stones thereof ... being Caste abowght the church pre... som the space of xxtie foote from the said tower and one stone being of the ?weight of 10 ?lb or thereabowght was cast along ... the foote of the lightning place beinge manifeste where ... the west window of the tower belonging to the belfrie was ... straight shattered the clock broken the frame s... the walles of the said belfrie parched to all appearance by fier and smoake ... the windows of the church likewise... Teste me Thomas Reade, vicar ...' *Several faint lines follow. This badly faded note is on an end page of the register.*

General registers, 1661-1812 (883/2-4, 8)

Burials of parish clerks: Roger Gryn, 14 Mar 1613; Christopher Howell, 22 Jun 1676; Edward Dicke, 7 May 1689; William Dicke, 9 Jan 1700; John Nibly, 25 Jun 1809.

Meshach Cooper clerk, 7 Dec 1707. Edward Orpen began as parish clerk on 13 Jun 1722; he was declared on 19 Apr 1724 by John Richard, vicar; buried 6 June 1781. William Gibbs parish clerk 1807

1 Jun 1706 Daniel Marks chosen sexton by the vestry. John Brown sexton, 5 Mar 1731.

Thomas Orpen, organist, Monday in Easter Week, 27 Apr 1736. *Details from 883/2-3.*

BRAMSHAW *Transferred to Hampshire in 1895. A transcript of the registers by Arthur Hill in 1905 is in the parish archive [HRO 55M83/PZ15, 17]; a microfilm copy of which is held by WSA [X3/82].*

General register 1597-1703 (HRO 55M71/1)

It is the custom of the parish of Bramshaw: 1d for the herb garden; 1d for eggs; 1d for a new milk cow; ½ d for a thorough milk cow; for the minister marrying 5s 6d; for churching a woman 8d. By me James Eburie vicar 1666. I have entered this into the register because in time of the troubles some gave nothing at all, some what they pleased, but the ancient custom is as above I have written and that by the testimony of ancient people in the parish who paid the marriage money and for the churching of wives 2d offering; by the testimony of Benjamin Edwards aged 70, Joan Comly aged 60, Richard De Luke, 70, who had been parish clerk in the time before the wars began. Also in the presence of 20 women in the parish at the churching of William Hobbes his wife, I demanded of them what was my due for churching and they all answered 8d. Also one Clement Gose of this parish testified that he had taken up 8d as the minister's due before the Civil Wars began, who was aged 60. To the clerk 2d

1660 2d offerings; 1d for a new milk cow; ½ d for a winter milk cow; 1d for eggs; 1d for a garden; £8 pa from the parson of the impropriation; the parson's tenant did withhold from me the garden penny but unjustly as I was informed by some that had paid it to the former minister as to Mr Tod and others; also the tithe goose. *Original very faded.*

30 Jul 1668 Richard Edwards the parson's tenant did acknowledge that the garden penny did belong to the vicar or curate of the parish.

General register, 1703-1784 (HRO 55M83/PR2)

An account of what the curacy of Bramshaw is: The house commonly called the vicarage house and ground belonging thereto: £8 pa paid out of the parsonage; offerings at Easter the custom is to pay 2d a head for every one in the parish that is above 16; 1d for every old milk cow; 1d in lieu of tithe of eggs which is paid at Easter; the tithe of geese; every woman when she is church'd offers 8d which was the old demand but now everybody gives 12d; for marrying by banns only half a crown. This I received whilst I was curate; witness my hand, Isaac Gale, 1717.

Uriah Lawrence clerk buried 5 Apr 1743.

Baptism and burial register, 1781-1804 (HRO 55M83/PR3)

1795 wheat sold at 12s 6d per bushel (Winchester measure).

1800 wheat flour sold at 17s 2d per bushel (Winchester measure).

Baptism and burial register, 1805-1812 (HRO 55M83/PR4)

The house of Widow Hatch was struck by lightning and the dog killed, lying by her side 12 May 1811.

A piece of ground was added to the churchyard and consecrated by the bishop in 1826. *For details see bishop's register D1/2/32.*

BRATTON

General register, 1542-1683 (1872/1)

Note about gap in the register between the death of Augustine [Carewell] in 1595 and Mar 1598 when Richard Horwood began as curate. Robert Marshall succeeded Carewell as curate and neglected the register of Little Stoke [i.e. Bratton].

John Truland sworn as parish register before Edward Michell, 14 Nov 1653.

This register should have been kept in a strong and legible hand and good ink, 5 Jul 1748.

The legibility of the register has been compromised by the later use of gallic acid which initially brings up the writing, only to stain the pages making them thereafter completely illegible.

General register, 1795-1812 (1872/6)

Memo copied by John Whitaker, churchwarden, from the old church book: 1681 This church book do take place after the old church book and several loose papers which are rolled up in it which old book bears the date 1554. By which book and other proofs and records fetched from Canterbury: This church of Little Stoke, situate in or near Bratton, was proved not to be a chapel, but a church with all parochial rights and perambulations, and to be also 315 years longer built than the church at Westbury. The expense of which lawsuit cost this parish upwards of £100. The lawsuit of Westbury which was a design of them to prove our church a chapel of ease, was overthrown in 1625. James Ivie, vicar, John Titly, curate, Henry Whitaker, Phillip King, churchwardens, Richard Titly junior, clerk. *The note seems somewhat dubious as there does not seem to be any indication in parish or diocesan records to support the implementation of the verdict of the lawsuit.*

In 1680 William Read, the clerk of Bratton church died and Mr Ivey, the vicar, brought a clerk from Westbury who being disapproved of by the parish they elected a sexton who afterwards was made clerk and in the same year the third bell was new cast with other expenses about the tower and steeple and roof of the church exceeded the sum of £36.

BREMHILL

General register, 1652-1676 (1154/1) See also p 293.

Note that a new register was made 10 Oct 1653 by Robert Davys, parish register.

1678 Churchwardens and Overseers of the Poor chosen; Andrew Shapard, Wertor Asington (Walter Essington), churchwardens; Theophilus King, overseer for Bremhill; John Broockes, overseer for Spirthill; William Newman, overseer for Tytherton; George Grant, overseer for Foxham.

General register, 1591-1726 (1154/2)

A perfect register book made of all the christenings, marriages and burials that have been in the parish of Bremhill from the year 1590 to this present year 1659, bought and made by Jeffrey Pinnell and Robert Jenkins, gents, now churchwardens of the parish aforesaid. James Crump, minister, Jeffrey Pinnell, Robert Jenkins, churchwardens, Robert Davis, clerk.

The lady Steward Baynton did freely give this 'comuninge' cloth to the parish of Bremhill, 18 Nov 1667. Edward Carpenter, clerk and register at that time.

1692 These are the names of them under written that are in poverty and are relieved by the parishioners of Bremhill: Richard Buy, 3s 6d; Jane Edmunce, 2s; Widow Skuce, 2s 6d; Widow Bowyer, 3s 4d; Widow Broune, 4s; Widow Cox, 3s; Widow Sutton, 3s; John Withers, 3s; Jeret Carpenter, 6s; Widow Willshere, 3s; Anne Bankes, 2s; Winny Tounsin, 2s; John Gingil, 1s; Margaret Jaffrey, 2s; Stephen Whiler, 3s 4d; Jane Barker, 3s; John Smith, 3s; John Chesterman, 2s; Cherrity Pearce, 1s; Miell Mortimer, 1s 6d; George Hatter, 2s; Robert Ryly's children, 1s 6d. Total £2 17s 8d

1693 Supervisors [of the Highways] chosen by the parishioners; Foxham, Sir George Hungerford; Bremhill, Thomas Mansell; Spirthill, Edward Wakeham; Wick, Oliver King or the Ten[ant]; Tytherton, Mr Bayly or the Ten[ant]. Churchwardens: Sir George Hungerford, John King gent. Overseers of the Poor: John Tucker for King-ficks; Spirthill, Mr Edward Danvers to find sufficient overseer; Foxham, Joan Hale the same. The sacraments duely administered 13 May 1706, John Wilson vicar.

Burial register, 1678-1725 (1154/11) *See also p 293.*

Notes in the same hand about tithes arising from Bremhill and its chapels:

1657 Mr Crumpe (vicar) received of Edward Hungerford esq £1 for Cadnam and £1 for 4 acres of arable in the Field and Ballrudge; query who now has the 4 acres.

In a petition of the inhabitants of Foxham to the bishop of Salisbury and by his certificate to the archbishop in 1607 'tis asserted that there is at Foxham a house for the vicar to dwell in. Mr Collier pleaded, in excuse of finding a curate at Foxham, that the chapel was of Andrew Baynton esq, so he had nothing to do there. By the deed it appears so.

The family of Hungerford paid formerly £... pa for the tithes of Avon chapel, as appears by many acquittances and so in George Hungerford's letter to the bishop.

In a paper in Mr Hungerford's hands dated 12 Dec 1681; Dr Townson v Sir George Hungerford -Nixon proctor- It is set forth that whenever Mr

Collier, vicar of Bremhill, went to preach at Foxham, which was about once or twice in a year, he was treated by the Hungerfords, or other inhabitants, and always received 6s 8d for each sermon, of them; and that he never preached there as obliged or bound by law, but out of respect, and at the request of the inhabitants of Foxham, and that the inhabitants thanked him, and did not look upon it as a duty, nor did he provide a curate to preach there. After his decease, his son was put in by the inhabitants to officiate at Foxham, and he was paid by them, and not by the vicar of Bremhill, and the lands, in a deed given by lady Bayntun, were for maintaining a minister to officiate at Foxham, as appears by the deed of settlement. A house and chapel ground, the priest's house, 3 more houses, £33 pa given by lady Bayntun.

In Queen Elizabeth's reign Hungerford paid; for Foxham £23 pa; for Cadnam £1; for Avon £6; as appears by Mr Norborn's acquittances, in Mr Hungerford's hands.

Extracts from Dr Townson's answer in Chancery to Sir George Hungerford's bill of complaint; 17 Jan 1668: ... it may be true the owners of Cadnam might pay to the farmers of the tithes of Bremhill 20s yearly or other sum in lieu of tithes by private composition, which this defendant is not obliged, either in law or equity to accept of, but the tithes ought to be paid in kind, as others within the parish of Bremhill; for this defendant hopes to prove that about 116 years since the then bishop of Salisbury, as patron, with the incumbent, there being then not any law or statute to restrain them, did let to farm the tithes of Bremhill unto one Norborn for 94 years; the lessee paying to the incumbent the yearly sum of about £30, of which the incumbent paid to the Vicars choral of Salisbury £20pa; which continues payable, and has been yearly paid by this defendant. The complainant could never prove any exemption from any abbey etc, nor any modus or composition. *Thomas Collier signed the bishops transcript for 1606 and was succeeded by John Townson in 1639, who was vicar until 1687. In 1672 a case was brought against Townson who appears to have neglected Foxham by not appointing a curate and by allowing the chapel to fall into decay. The hamlet comprised 60 families and the tithes due to Townson were valued at £60. Yet he had found a curate for Highway, a smaller hamlet. [D1/41/4/38]*

Memo by Charles Bowles, notary public, 10 Jul 1825; that Revd W Lisle Bowles, vicar of Bremhill, in 1825, in order to induce the inhabitants of Foxham to provide, at their own expense, for service of the chapel there at his own costs, as a benefaction only, repaired the roof of the said chapel.

In 1722 I find by Mr Wilson's book of account that Walter Hungerford esq paid to him 10s (for Mrs Lutterells being buried in the chancel), but where there is a vault, the usual fee is 1 guinea and for breaking the ground only 13s 4d. *Probably written by Benjamin d'Aranda who succeeded John Wilson as vicar in 1725.*

BRINKWORTH

General register, 1653-1753 (1607/1)

Appointment of a parish register, sworn before William Shute. *The entry at the start of the marriages in 1653 is completely illegible apart from the justices' signature. William Clarke, register, was buried 2 Jun 1658 and was probably the person appointed.*

Marriage register, 1754-1809 (1607/4)

Distribution of books in 1778: Bibles: Thomas Pinnel, John Ford, Joseph Sly, Ann Drew, <Henry Webb>, Ed. Cripps, Jonathan Drew, John Vezard, William Mathews & all, Peter Sutton, Robert Ovens, John Smith, John Potter, James Huse, Thomas Vizard, William Huse, Henry Dixon. Testaments: Thomas Fry, William Thomson, William Shierer, David Sly, Abraham Potter, Elizabeth Huse, Thomas Moody, Robert Dixon, William Hale, Elizabeth Mathews widow, John Ayliffe, Thomas Hunt, John Cutts, Reuben Vizard, Ann Mapson, Henry Webb. Prayer books: John Sherer, Honour Dodson, Giles Vizard; Isaac Hayward; Robert Young, Joseph Ponting, Henry Drew, William Sherer junior, Richard Mathews, Christopher Potter, Lewis Godwyn, John Clerke, John Crips, Joseph Smith.

With bill for £5 4d for the books and 50 copies each of Gibson's Family Devotion and Mann on the Catechism; sent, by order of The Society for promoting Christian Knowledge by John Rivington and sons, booksellers to the Society at the Bible and Crown, in St Paul's Churchyard to Revd Dr Jeffries for the Revd Brooke, London, 8 Jan 1778, paid for by Revd Blayney. *Benjamin Blayney was vicar of Brinkworth.*

1798 The gift of books by minister and churchwardens: Bibles; Richard Wheeler, Francis Langly, John Landfair. Testaments; Tom-Thumb Pinnel, B Langly's school, Giles Vizard, William Haderil, Ann Gregory, David Sutton, John Tibbetts, Bob Pinnel, Joseph Ponting, William Thomson, Alexander Hale, Samuel Hunt, John West. Prayer Books: William Ponting, Reuben Vizard, Will Spencer, John Goddard, Kitt Young, David Lewis, Widow Moody, Anthony Webb, Thomas Landfair, John Fry, Mrs Young, Will Mathews, William Horner, Ann Mathews, Richard Priddy.

BRITFORD

General register, 1640-1719 (499/5)

Edward Falconer, clerk, sworn as parish register before Edward Tooker, 26 Mar 1654. *Falconer was vicar.*

Memorand' that by the virtue of a warrant directed from the justices to the collector of births, burials etc, a copy of the register was delivered to them from May day 1697 to May day 1699 by the collector, on Tues 23 May 1699; *memo* a copy of the register was again delivered in the said justices 5 Apr 1700; *memo* that a copy of this register together with the register book from 1 May 1699 to 1 May 1700 was again carried into the justices at the Blue Boar in

Salisbury on Wed 5 Jun 1700, at which time the surrogate (J M...e writes himself) has mistook in putting down his mark of examination. W[illiam] Powell, vicar. *This relates to the duty imposed by an Act of 1694 on Births, Marriages and Burials.*

General register, 1719-1812 (499/6)

Communion plate, 1750: Two flagons inscribed 'The Gift of Jacob Viscount Folkestone to the Church of Burtford in Wilts for the use of the Sacrament, in the year 1750'. A chalice and plate with same inscription. A basin inscribed 'The silver of an old chalice, which was provided at the parish expense and the silver of an old paten given by Henry Hare, lord Coleraine, put into this offering basin of the church, 1750'

1768 A Jew found dead in a chalk pit Jan 26th. But was removed to London Feb 7th *The full story behind this brief note is supplied by other sources including The Salisbury Journal, 1 Feb 1768; Wolf Myers was murdered by John Curtis, who was subsequently hung. The register provides the detail that his body was taken to London for burial.*

BRIXTON DEVERILL

General register, 1653-1800 (1180/2)

William Cooper of Brixton Deverill, chosen as parish register, as confirmed by a certificate dated 16 Sep 1653, sworn before Edward Michell, 31 Dec 1653.

31 Mar 1662 note of approval of the register kept since Jun 1651, John Smith, rector, Ephraim Westley, William Beach, Richard Humfery (X).

BROAD CHALKE

General register, 1538-1653 (1261/1)

'New written by Mr Henrie Brooke out of the old booke'. *On title page. Marginal notes indicate that Brooke officiated from 1597 to 1602. The earliest years of other curates, who officiated during the incumbency of John Archer, vicar, 1575-1622, are similarly recorded; Mr Baker, 1571; Mr Dale 1579; Mr Sherman 1580; Mr Greene 1583; Mr Yeard 1591; Mr Bower 1592; Mr Abington 1594; Mr Wakelinge 1602; R Antram 1609; Mr Owen 1610; Mr Jones 1613.*

Burial register, 1677-1783 (1261/13)

Memos of receipts of customary fee of 6s 8d for the burials of several non parishioners, 1725-1782.

BROAD HINTON

General register, 1612-1682 (1505/1)

Memo 1834; This old register was lost about the year 1803 when the Revd T[homas] H[enry] Hume left this vicarage, who was afterwards a canon of Salisbury cathedral, and died in the year 1834, when Revd William Macdon-

ald who had been also vicar of this parish & a canon of Salisbury found it amongst the papers of Canon Hume, and delivered it to Mr William Ruddle Browne, churchwarden, who had it bound and again placed in the register chest. June 18th 1834.

'John Constable of this parish by his will gave to the impotentest poore of this parish the somme of Forty shillings to remayne in stock towards their relief for ever The commodity of it to be bestowed upon them in mony yerely upon Midl Lent Sunday after evening prayer at the discretion of the Churchwardins for the tyme being; which mony was delivered to the use aforesaid by Richard Constable this xvth day of marche Anno Domini 1611. *Will proved 1610, TNA PROB 11/115*

Sir John Sheston sometimes minister of this parish gave certen goodes to the poore to the intent that the Churchwardens should pay five shillings in breade to the poore upon midlent Sunday after evening prayer for ever. *Not in Phillipps; possibly a curate in the late 16th cent.*

henry leversage gen' by his last will gave twenty shillings to remayne in a stock for the poore of this parrish the profit thereof to be yerely paid unto them by the Church Wardines for the tyme being for ever; which mony was d[elivere]d to the uses aforesaid by Edmund Long Esq executor of the said will the xxvth of June 1618.

George Greenway of this parish gave xs by his last will to remayne in a stock to the use of the poore of this parish with mony.' *Will dated 1617 P3/G/51.*

John Grinaway of Broad Hinton sworn parish register before William Sadler 27 Mar 1654.

Sir John Glanvill buried 3 Oct 1661. *A note that he was elected Speaker of the House of Commons 1640 and is buried in the chancel on the north side of the communion table; with lengthy extracts from Laurence Echard's History of England and Bishop Burnet's Life of Judge Hale illustrating his character.*

Notes of the deaths and accessions of monarchs, 1602-1685 including the execution of Charles 1st 'beheaded by the Presbyterians Jan the 30th sic 1748/9' Piae memoriae [of godly memory]; 'Oliver Cromwell died Sep 3rd 1658 Impiae memoriae [of ungodly memory]; A great wicked man as Lord Clarendon justly calls him.'

Mr Francis Constable of this parish and late of the city of London, woollen draper, by his last will gave to the poor of this parish ten pounds, which sum was distributed amongst them by his trustees in the year of our Lord God 1665, being the year after his decease. *Will proved 1664, TNA PROB 11/314.*

In an old parish book almost worn out is the following memorandum: The church of Broad Hinton was new built 1634; brought to perfection 1635; finished and beautified 1636 & also A new pulpit erected 1672. The first loft in the tower was boarded in 1676. The belfry and church porch paved 1677.

1677 Gift by William Glanville esq; 2 large flagons, a chalice with cover, a

paten, a basin, all of silver with cases. Memo 14 Oct 1677, by Henry Dudley, vicar, that the former small silver chalice be added to the utensils for the communion table.

Thomas Benet esq of Salthrop in 1743 gave a charity school for the benefit of poor children born and living in this parish, and endowed it with £20 pa clear and free from all taxes, to be paid quarterly by the owner of Quidhampton farm [*in Wroughton*] to the master of the school, who shall be elected by the joint consent of the owner of the said farm and the vicars of Broad Hinton, Wroughton and Wootton Bassett, and the rectors of Winterbourne Bassett and Lydiard Tregoze, and their successors for ever, or the major part of them. He also built a house for the use of the master, and at his decease which was 175-, he ordered £20 to be distributed to the poor of this parish, besides charities to other places. *Buried on 30 Oct 1754 at Wroughton.*

Thomas Benet esq of Salthorpe and his lady Mrs Elizabeth Benet some time in Sep 1743 delivered into the hands of Thomas Frampton vicar of Broad Hinton an indenture by which she conveyed to the said Thomas Frampton and to the rectors of Winterbourne Bassett, Lydiard Tregoze, the vicars of Wroughton and Wootton Bassett and their successors for ever the following fee farm rents to be employed for ever for the binding and placing forth apprentices to some honest trade or calling poor children which at the time of such placing forth shall be of the parish and inhabiting within the manor of Broad Hinton.

Henry Window esq for Studly Grange; it becomes due from Michaelmas 1743, £6 13s 4d; Thomas Benet esq of Norton for Norton mill and fishery due from Lady day 1743, £3 11s 10d; Roger Hale for Cherhill mill due from Michaelmas 1743, £3 3s. Collected thus by Mr Window or tenants; Thomas Benet esq of Salthorpe, 11s 1d; John Cox esq, £1 10s 7d; Richard Southby esq, £2; Henry Window esq, £1 12s 11d; Mrs Church, 6s 3d; Mr Bailey, 12s 6d; Total £6 13s 4d.

Mr Bennet's charity for apprenticing children as [*fee farm rents*] collected from Studley Grange in 1769; Mrs Legh for lands called Salthrop, 8s 5d; John Draper for Charterhouse lands lately exchanged with Thomas Bennet, 2s 8d; Richard Southby esq for his estate rented by widow Shelden, £2 6d; Edmund Maskelyne esq for his estate at Basset down late Mr Cox's, £1 10s 7d; John Draper for Studley, £1 12s 11d; William Crips for lands called Padbrooks, 6s 3d; John Iles for late Newels estate called Red House, 12s 6d; a mill at Norton and a fishery, £3 11s 10d; a mill at Cherhill, £3 3s. Total annually £13 8s 2d. Deduct taxes at 3s in the pound £1 13s and at 4s in the pound £2 4s.

General register, 1682-1773 (1505/2)

The notes were written by Algernon Clavering, vicar 1754-1773.

Note about the vicarage being in the gift of St Nicholas Hospital, Salisbury.

Through the omission of Edward Greenaway, [parish] clerk, there was no register regularly kept from 1742-1757, which great neglect was unknown to

the minister until Mr Greenaway left Broad Hinton, 20 Feb 1757. John Taylor succeeded him and resigned in 1760.

Francis Taylor was nominated parish clerk, 1 Jun 1760, by me Algernon Clavering. He left Broad Hinton 17 Mar 1768 and his brother John was appointed for the second time by me Algernon Clavering.

1672 The pulpit was erected new.

1682 bought a silk purple plush cloth and cushion for the pulpit, cost £7 19s 16— A new black hearse cloth marked BH, silver galooome, with some other fancies.

1763 two tables of Commandments and the King's Arms were new erected at the very earnest request of the minister.

1756 bought a new surplice which cost 3 guineas and 3 pence for 11 ells of holland at 5s 9d an ell and half a guinea for the making; total, £3 13s 9d

20 Nov 1759 the vicarage well cleaned 42yd 1ft deep by William Rogers and Robert Cole, both of whom were buried in Feb 1769.

1770 a new well rope 11s 8d; and a new well drock from Swindon 14s.

1760 the tower was new leaded and a lock and key put on the door: The key to be kept by the minister to prevent people cutting their names etc etc etc in the lead.

Dec 1765 the road pitched from the manor gate to the Pits.

18 Oct 1766 a new communion table cloth and damask napkin £2 1s 11½d; consecrated at the Holy table the Christmas following.

Dec 1769 the road from Isaac Picket's house to the churchyard gate was new pitched and 12 posts erected.

1758 I planted a Mulberry tree in the vicarage garden (which was 16 years old when planted).

1765 planted another southward in the vicarage garden.

Michaelmas 1769 planted 11 spruce firs in the court before the house and 14 others in the garden.

Michaelmas 1770 planted 10 more before the house in the churchyard and 38 in the field; planted 70 Scot fir trees in the vicarage meadows.

21 May (Trinity Sunday) 1769: First used a new pulpit cloth and cushion which cost the parish £4 10s 1d, besides what I paid myself, 5s 5d; total £4 15s 6d 2yd of super fine crimson cloth at 17s a yd, £1 14s; 6in of same, 2s 10 ½ d > The tailor made it 1yd 3in deep and cut off the remainder for the cushion<. 6½ yd of narrow silk fringe at 2s 11d a yd, 18s 11d; 5yd of broad silk fringe at 4s 8d a yd, £1 3s 4d; 2 silk tassels, 2s 7d each, 5s 2d; 2¼ yd of bed tick for the cushion at 20p a yd, 3s 9d; red sewing silk, 10 ½ d; carriage from London, 1s 2d; sub total £4 10s 1d. ½ yd of calamanco at 14d a yd, 7d; hooks and eyes, 1s; paid the tailor for making it, 3s 10d. Total £4 15s 6d.

6 Oct 1770 a new large Common Prayer Book bought, £1 2s 6d.

Oct 1771 the stone coffin was taken up out of the church porch. It was discovered there about 20 years ago when a person of this parish was buried close by it. The coffin then opened and most of the bones in it were entire. Some of the shroud remained and a crucifix made of wood lay on the breast of the deceased and the head in the arch at the upper end of the coffin. When it

was removed it was all mouldered to dust except part of the skull and a very few of the bones. The other coffin had been taken up time immemorial and had the same arch for the head.

The Holy Sacrament of the Lord's Supper is usually administered six times in a year in this parish: first Sunday in Lent; Easter day; Whit Sunday; 9th Sunday after Trinity; 20th Sunday after Trinity; Christmas day.

The neglect and the careless receiving of the Lord's Supper are inlets to all manner of evil, and I know not whether the scandalous corruption of our own age and people be more justly imputable to any cause than to the long and general disuse of this Sacrament introduced by the confusions and hypocrisy of the last century. *Notes about church fabric, bells, school and Broad Town church, 1843-1859.*

General register, 1773-1806 (1505/4)

Thomas Eatwell, carpenter, appointed clerk in the room of Edward Hunter deceased by me Richard Purdy, 8 Dec 1788.

1787 Richard Purdy, vicar, who rebuilt the vicarage, resigned in 1789 and moved to Cricklade St Sampson.

General register, 1806-1812 (1505/5)

The plantation around the vicarage house home close was made by Revd Hume, who also removed the garden from the south side of the house to its present (in 1810) situation on the north west. *Thomas Henry Hume, vicar 1787-1804, and son of the bishop of Salisbury.*

1810 a new purple cloth was procured for the communion table.

BROMHAM

General register, 1560-1701 (518/3)

Part of medieval text used in binding which refers to Peter Bles', archdeacon of Bath and Roger, deacon. Peter of Blois was archdeacon between 1182-1212.

'Wiltsherre. Accordinge to an Act of Parliamt intituled an Act Touchinge Mariages and the Registringe thereof, and also touchinge birthes and burials, And with the consent and approbacion of the inhabitants of the Parish of Bromham in the county aforesaid, I doe allowe and approve of Benjamin webb, to be the publike Parish Register for thesaid Parish of Bromham, to continue in the said place of Register duringe the terme of three yeares next after the date hereof, and have given the said Benjamin webb his Corporall oath to behave himselfe in all thinges therein, accordinge to the true intent and Meaninge of the said Act, in Testimony whereof I have hereunto sett my hand the 26th day of September 1653. Ed[ward] Baynton'

5 May 1617 agreement between the inhabitants of Bromham and Chittoe: William Overton and John Evans, present churchwardens of Bromham, and Richard Eire and Eleazer Webb, elected churchwardens for next year, and

their successors are to receive from the inhabitants of Chittoe 25s pa for the upkeep of Bromham church, church house, churchyard, and provision of books, vestments, bread and wine. William Hughes and John Paradise, present and elect churchwardens or sidesmen of Chittoe agree to pay this annual sum between the hours of 9 and 12 in the forenoon on the feast day of St James the Apostle [25 Jul], or within 8 days. If not they can be demanded to do so by a public warning after Divine service or the sermon in Bromham church. Witnesses: William Overton (X), John Evance, churchwardens; Richard Eire (X), Eleazer Webb; William Hwes, John Paradise, churchwardens or sidesmen of Chittoe; Robert Bayly (X), William Wilkins;

William Webb, John Slade, Richard Hunte, James Tise, Joseph Anstie, inhabitants of Bromham;

John Bayly senior (X), John Hyls (X), Richard Bayly (X), Henry Rawlins (X), Richard Hancock (X), Andrew Jennens (X), John Chevar (X), Henry Chevar (X), inhabitants of Chittoe

The view or survey of the utmost bounds of the parish of Bromham as they are situated and be between Bromham, Heddington and Roundway, according to the ancient procession or perambulation of the parishioners made by ancient men of Bromham in the times of parson Bancroft and parson Hugh Webb, taken 9th Jun 1628 and so again perambulated by way of procession upon 3rd May 1630 and again upon 16th May 1631 as follows:

1. From a gate called Hill Lake gate that comes out of the park of Sir Edward Bayntun, the bounds proceed along the ditch without the said park ascending upwards towards Bagdon Hill, with a continued hedge and ditch along the said park and a ground called Masons Breach, and by a part of the field in Bromham called the Clay, so far as any hedge or ditch extends leading out the lane or highway.
2. A little above the uppermost part of the said hedge that is in the field called the Clay, the procession crossed over the said highway adjoining thereunto, and took it into Bromham parish, and so ascending by a water gullet, it came to a hole made for the division of the two parishes of Bromham and Heddington, the inhabitants of both the said parishes consenting thereunto, from thence ascending to another hole made for the same purpose, from thence ascending to an ancient known place called the Bound post, from thence proceeding to another known place called the Hurst, from thence to another known place called Cotterells Ball, from thence to another known place called the Vize Cross, from thence along the highway's side which lies by Heddington field, which is evidently known by their 'linchers' [*linchets*] left in divers of their lands until it comes to a known place called and known by the name of Bound stone, which parts Bromham, Heddington and Roundway.
3. There the procession parts quite from Heddington, and goes along by Roundway bounds, to a known mere stone in a mere of Mr Nicholas of Roundway, from thence to a place where a man was buried between Bromham and Roundway, from thence compassing in a place called Bromham Castle, it descends again into one of the ancient fields of Bromham called the Clay, along by a known acre there called Snake Acre, and so to a spring head at the bottom of the hill called Casse Well alias Castle Well.

5 Jul 1680 Memo of an agreement between Mrs Bridget Webb, widow and William Webb, Netherstreet, carrier. Bridget is to have a woman's seat belonging to William in the 16th pew in the middle row from the chancel downward for ever.

Names and portions of money given to the poor and received by the overseers: William Webb of the Chantry gave £6 13s 4d; Robert Eyre gave 10s; Richard Anstye gave 20s; John Eyre of Seend gave 10s; Humphrey Townsend gave £3 6s 8d; [*Added in a later hand*] Thomas Paradise gave 10s; Ann Atkinson, a servant of Sir Edward Bayntun gave £8; and it was delivered to the poor by us, Brian Webb. *Undated, early 17th cent.*

Copy of deed dated 30 Nov 1518, of a cottage formerly held by Thomas Grover, before him, Margaret Burchmannes, given to the church by Laurence, abbot of Battle abbey to Richard Whyte, gent, Thomas Pede, Thomas Lemman and John Slade. Examined by Ro[bert] Richards parson & Richard Francklin schoolmaster.

Quarter Sessions at Marlborough Easter 1630: The verdict of the 12 men touching the reparation of a lane called Hell Lake, lying between Bromham and Heddington, was that the lane ought to be repaired by the inhabitants of Heddington and not of Bromham.

23 Apr 1610 Agreement between 1. Joan Webb, widow, John Fryer and Eleanor, his wife and 2. Robert Richards, rector of Bromham, Elizabeth, his wife and Paul Knight and John Eyre, churchwardens; I have given up their right to one room in a seat in the north side of the church; the inmost room in the 4th seat below the pulpit, which pertains to the house of John Fryer, which is part of the parsonage of Bromham for ever to the use of the said Elizabeth Richards. Witnesses: Paul Knight, John Eyre, Robert Selfe, Thomas Wyralls

1611 Agreement between Robert Richards, rector, and Benjamin Tyse and Henry Webb, churchwardens, that the seat within the seat that the rector allowed the clerk to read prayers in is to remain for ever to him that shall be parish clerk. Witnesses: Robert Richards, Benjamin Tyse, Henry Webb (X)

Apr 1781 copy of a transcript of the inscription on the monument in the Bayntun aisle made by Mr Gore of Alderton, but now wholly carried away. I here inscribe a copy from his minutes and is undoubtedly William, lord Beauchamp: An altar monument of alabaster the effigies of a knight lying on it, he has a collar of [*]; the east ?band of brass lost, the south thus '... maritus domini Elizabth domina de sancto Amando [Batt] ... et miles pro corpore [*] Henrici septimi Regis Anglia [*] ac contra cui a[n]i[m]i prospicietur Deus Amen-

The lesser side monument now fallen down thus 'Hic iacet Elizabeth Domina

de sancto Amando filia ... Almerico D[o]m[in]o de S[an]cto Amando qui obiit ... cuius an[ime] prospicietur Deus Amen-
E mss Comit Pembrok [*from the papers of the earl of Pembroke*] - Almeric de Sancto Amando Ld <L...>?sentonian of William descended two heirs general the first married to William Beauchamp, lord St Amand and had issue; the second married to Sir Gerard de Braybrok knight.

Thomas Gore of Alderton was a contemporary of John Aubrey, the 17th cent antiquarian. The translation of the phrase at the end of each is 'whose soul may God look after'. Asterisks represent indistinct sketches in the note. This is a more complete transcript than that in Phillipps.

... 25 160... Agreement between Mr Andrew White and Mr Ferdinando Hews, and Paul Knight and John Eyre, churchwardens: Mr White is to have five seats of the upper building appropriated to his mansion house and disposed of them at the rent of 15d to the church; Mr Hews shall have four seats, rent 20d pa, one of these is granted by him to Jane Hancock, rent 3d. Witnesses: Robert Richards, minister. *With the signatures of all the parties.*

Item Mr Hewse has sold the said four seats to William Pead, John Barnard and Thomas Hobbs to each of them one room as they already sit there for ever at the yearly rent of 3d to the church. Item Mr White has sold one of his seats to John Taylor.

31 Jul 1614 Mr Thomas Fuller preached at Bromham, allowed by the bishop. Thomas Fuller.

2 Feb 1634 Whereas the inhabitants of Bromham want a convenient room in their church for the placing of a table board for the use of the parson receiving his dues at Easter and other good uses, they have obtained from Mr Thomas Eyre his room that appertains to him for burial and his seat. Mr Eyre and his heirs retain the liberty for burials there and the rent ceases. Witnesses: Robert Richards, rector, Samuel Webb, Richard Fidsall

7 Dec 1634 William Yerbury, and Katherine Lester, widow and her son Richard, with the consent of Sir Edward Bayntun agreed, in regard of his right to his tenements, and Robert Richards rector, Robert Townsend, Edward Ballard churchwardens, in regard of their regard for the church, have made an exchange of 'loaving' seats; William and his successors shall have for his tenement, for ever hereafter, Katherine and Richard's 'loaving' seat against the belfry (Bellfeare'). Richard and his successors are to have for ever hereafter, for his tenement William's seat. Robert Richards rector, Robert Townsend, Edward Ballard (X), William Yerbury, Richard Lester (X). *For loaving seats see Glossary.*

General register, 1739-1812 (1046/2)

22 Oct 1808 the stools at the altar were given by Mrs Ann Locke, widow of Wadham Locke esq of Devizes.

BROUGHTON GIFFORD**General Register, 1665-1715 (501/1)**

In the year of our Lord on Tuesday 6 Sep 1687 was Nathaniel Resbury legally inducted into the rectory of Broughton Gifford (void by the death of Anthony Beebey) by the hands of Charles Michel curate of the said rectory in the presence of Nicholas Prior and David Gawen churchwardens and diverse others inhabitants of the parish.

Memo: On the Lord's day following the said Nathaniel Resbury did in the parish church at the lawful times of divine service then and there publicly read all the divine service both morning and evening and declared his unfeigned assent and consent and read the 39 Articles as by law provided. Charles Michell, George Dixon.

William Hickes was inducted into the church of Broughton Gifford 9 Sep 1689 by Charles Mitchell curate, in the presence of Timothy Skrine churchwarden.

Notes by William Hickes rector.

1693 Memo That the bit of stone walk by the Churchyard Hatch stood near one yard further out on the common way than it does now & turned with a 'coin' [*quoïn*] towards the Church Hatch & was removed inward towards the churchyard to make the wall, hatch & great gate of the churchyard to be in a straight line.

1698 This year was the walk on the west and north of the church yard built by Thomas Big & William Sertane churchwardens. But Sertane, being tenant to the next ground, out of covetousness, took in above two foot of the church yard; for the outmost bounds of it were in the middle of the ditch when it was bounded with post & rails which stood in or about the middle of the ditch & remain still.

1708 This year the gallery was erected & built towards the same. Thomas Horton esq gave four pounds one shilling & six pence; William Hickes rector gave ten shillings. The whole cost was twelve pounds.

1711 Dr Gilbert Burnett, Lord Bishop of Sarum preached in the church, Tuesday 21 Jul.

General register, 1716-1758 (501/2)

Notes by William Hickes, rector 1689-1733.

In Nov 1732 A house called the Church house, which had two chimneys, one at each end, was pulled down, and the stones and timber used in the rebuilding the house near the parsonage house. This house reached from the lower stile, going to the brook, to the rails eastward as may [*? now be seen*] from the stone wall left for bounds of the churchyard. This church house was built by one Thomas Cockson, as appeared by a stone in the wall of the said house next the churchyard side, in which was engraved a pedlar's pack and, on each side, a cock. Some poor people lived in it in the memory of man who lived in the year sixteen hundred eighty and nine and in particular (as I have been informed by some that could remember it), the father of John

Oatridge, which John Oatridge had a leg cut off and mended shoes, in a house belonging to Esquire House in the lower end of the field near the brook, and was buried in May 1706; which house was pulled down about 1711-12. About this Church house, after it was pulled down, were noises heard in the night like throwing the timbers about one upon another and upon the stones that lay near, by Mrs Hunt and her two daughters that lived just by.

Likewise in the farmhouse (lying by the parson's house, in which then lived one Robert Newman) while the church house was pulling down and after they heard the treading of one going up and down the stairs.

Also a noise of throwing the stones that were brought from the said church house into their barton, from one heap to another.

John Tomkins of Holt and Esther Stevens of Broughton Gifford, married by licence, 8 May 1729. The man was about 65 years old, and was sick 3 or 4 weeks. The woman about 24 years. He scarce ever saw her till they came to church to be married, nor spoke a word to her about his design to marry her but by another person, and it was agreed upon but the night before marriage, and were married the next day, and he died the next day after marriage. So that the woman was a maid, wife and widow within 24 hours and supposed to be a maid as widow, and owned to me she was a maid still. *This union was probably a contrivance for John's family to enjoy a copyhold estate by the custom of widow's estate after his death which was exempt from paying the high entry fine. Under his will, proved 8 Aug 1729, Esther received 1 guinea and his estate was divided among his children, [P1/T/352]*

An account of some things in the church and churchyard and fees for tombstones there:

Some pitching the way from the little gutter at the parsonage house door to the corner of the chancel, 1718 & 1719. Pitching from the corner of the chancel to the corner of Esquire Horton's aisle done 1720, 1721. Pitching from the porch to the lower church stile, 1725, 1726. New churchyard hatch and gate and rail pales, done 1725. The new stile to cross the lane and the stile leading to Court orchard done 1725. Reading desk altered 1725. The aisles of the church new laid 1726. The gallery ceiling and adorning the church with sentences drawn from the Holy Scriptures, see the dates of doing them on the gallery and walls of the church; but because in time the dates may be blotted or erased out I shall set them down here also; the gallery was built 1708; the church was ceiled 1720; the church walls adorned with Scripture sentence, the Lord's commandments, Lord's Prayer and Apostles' creed or Belief and King's Arms, done 1724.

Oct 1726 the enclosed ground on the north side of the chancel way made by Mr John Horton (for which he gave me 10s, when his wife was buried 10 Oct 1724).

Dec 1726 Mr Weekes built a new seat of deal.

Fees for tombstones: 5s to be paid for every tombstone laid in the church, flat or high; which was paid by farmer May of Atford [*Atworth*] for his wife's kinsman (her half brother) for the flat tombstone of Charles Goar. 5s paid for Henry Box's flat tombstone by Mr Edward Baily of Bradford, who married

Ann Harding, sister to Margaret, wife to Henry Box. 10s paid by Mr John Horton for his wife's tombstone and room for one more.

Fees for burying in the church: 6s 8d to the churchwardens, the same to the minister if he gives leave, for none have right to burying in the church but by the minister's leave; strangers to pay 13s 4d for burying in the church, both to the minister and churchwardens, a mark to each.

Feb 1729 mending the roof, doors and floor of the barn, cost £3 12s.

29 Jan 1730 nine or ten of the womens' seats new boarded. Then a new lock was put on the chancel little door.

Fees for tombstone; Henry Box's trustee and executor (Mr Edward Baily) paid 5s for his tomb. 1727 Henry Butler paid 5s for his wife's tombstone.

Apr 1732 mending the barn floor and new doing up the walls thereof cost about £6.

An account of some things done to the parsonage house, stable, barns, garden etc, since 1690 William Hickee, rector.

1690 the barn new boarded all at one end and mending another end and the panes and the floor mended. 1698 the panes of barn and ox house all new made all over the floor, new laid the roof. 1701 the floor of the barn new made and the west part built with stone and two new doors. 1711 three parts of the floor new done and a new door and the panes of the barn and ox house new done. 1725 a new door and panes done with boards of barn and ox house and roof mended.

In the mansion house: 1693 the parlour ceiled and new plastered all round and glazed. In the hall a new floor made. The staircase new ceiled from top to bottom; the buttery enlarged, a new wire window made etc. 1716 the little court new paved and new pales; the garden pales new made next the churchyard. 1704 a new oven in the kitchen. 1701 the kitchen half paved all round. 1718 the kitchen enlarged and chimney altered; the study chamber half new joists and new laid and the chimney new done with a new hearth. 1725 & 1726 paint the doors and wainscot in parlour and study chambers; lead for the gutter in Rabbit Court and brew house chimney.

1718, 1719 the chancel ceiled and adorned; the two seats of the minister, one on the right hand, the other on the left hand new floored.

1726 the new brick wall at the east end of the garden made; Oct the new brick wall to a chamber and new window over the back entry leading to the garden built 1726; the penthouse over the door by the brew house made 1726.

Mar 1727 the penthouse or hovel by the hollow elm at the lower end of the garden. 1726 the new rack in the stable and half a new tablet laid then. Apr

1727 a new freestone window in the parlour chamber; the oven new made and mended and new covered with board. May 1727 a new back of brick with drawing holes in the kitchen and other mending about the chimney there, then a new hearth and back in the parlour chimney; two new gutter spouts in the Rabbit Court; a new pitched channel and iron grate and plastering there. Oct 1727 I built the new stone wall and a gout for the privy house with the palisade on top of the wall at the lower end of the garden. May and Jun 1728 the new study within the parlour was made from a buttery; new floored, window and bricked next the entry etc.

1706 the brewing house built and the entry by it paved then. 1718 the garden stone wall was built on the parsonage ground; the garden pales next the churchyard set up, which run the whole length of the garden. 1719 the wall next the street and in the barton adjoining was built with the skilling. The stable done at several times; 1696, 1697 both the barns walled and plastered. 1702 the stone part of the barn built and the new floor. 1711 the doors and a new floor done. 1693 the partition of the hall removed, a new grist floor and a new window and a new door made. 1707 the necessary house built; the forecourt paved. 1718 the new rails and pales of the forecourt set up. 1719 kitchen and hall built with stone on the north side. 1713 the kitchen enlarged and altered in the chimney; half of the kitchen new paved at several times. 1693 the parlour new plastered all round and ceiled; the parlour chamber lathed and plastered on two sides. 1710 a new chimney piece put in the parlour chimney. 1706 the oven new built. 1713 the chamber over the study, the chimney and hearth new done and half of the floor.

1719 the chancel was new roofed and ceiled. 1724 it was adorned with scripture's sentences.

The first charge and expense was in 1690 I had when I came to live at Broughton, mending the barn floor and boarding the two ends and props for the roof etc.

It is requisite for my successor to break open the enclosures unless he be granted a way through the meadows, South field and a field to his barn house. The ground upon which the new house without the churchyard is built was common about 60 years before the house was built (which was 1719) and enclosed with pales by Sir John Horton and made a barton, that is so much as reached to the end of the minister's house and to the gutter that carries the water from the well that is in the garden of the parsonage house. The high wall of the garden is built upon the shore of the parsonage garden ditch, Oct 1718. The new house is built upon ground given by the lord of the manor, Thomas Horton esq's wife, but was waste in memory of man. The hall and buttery new built Sep 1721. The stable all done with brick, Sep & Oct 1721. The stable wall all done with brick several times and new paved with new rack and manger and tablet floor and new thatched with a part of a new wall plate and new sheaf hole door etc done also at several times. Memo; that the new wall on the north and west side of the churchyard is built near two foot within the utmost limits of the old bounds of the churchyard, which were in the ditch when it was bounded and fenced with posts and rails, which stood in the middle of the ditch before the wall was built in 1698 by Thomas Big and William Sertane, churchwardens. But William Sertane, being tenant to the ground adjoining, out of covetousness, took more of the churchyard than he ought to [have done]. *This note also appears in the previous register.*

Account of some seats in the church, new made, where persons that had but one or two sittings at the most and yet have taken the whole seat to themselves, and some have taken in another whole seat to themselves to the exclusion of others, but this they cannot legally do, and the owners of sittings may notwithstanding claim their sittings. This has been done by: 1.

Mr Jeremy Horton about the year 1706, in building a seat that belonged to Stantiol: 2. By Mr John Horton about 1717: 3. By Mr John Golding about 1716 or 1717: 4. By Mr or Mrs Ann Hunt about 1716 or 1717: By William Sertane about 1716 or 1717: 6. By Sarah Skrine, Ann and Martha Russel about 1709, belonging to Monkton; All these incroachments made without consent of owners, minister or churchwardens.

Written between the entries for 1722 and 1723.

Memo that the communion plate of silver was given by John Horton gent, 11 Jun 1731.

Memo of the induction of James Webb in to the rectory and church of Broughton Gifford by James Lewis, rector of Great Chalfield, 30 Apr 1733.

Memo of the affirmation of assent by John Webb to the 39 Articles, 20 May 1733; witnesses; John Horton, Edward Gibbs, George Gibbs. *Not original signatures.*

BULFORD

General register, 1654-1690 (517/2)

John Smith, tailor, of Bulford sworn as parish register before Edward Tooker, 3 May 1654.

BURBAGE

General register, 1561-1662 (1678/1)

2 Jul 1565: The order how the church pale is made: Every mans' part by the yardland and by the living as it has of old time been accustomed, and now found out and set down by the oldest men of the parish; viz. Robert Banning, John Morse, Robert Ragbourne, John Morrent, John Widley, John Hutchins, John Daniels, Francis Faccott, Thomas Genaway, Thomas Raynolds, John Stagg, Richard Whitway, John Scory, Christopher Barling, John Banning, Edmund Sommerset, John Piper, Thomas Banning, Walter Gennance, Robert Heath, William Shadwell, Thomas Tarrant, Walter Kingston, Robert Kelme, John Upton, John Gregory, William Hopkins, George Bolling, Richard Church, John Everat, Richard Upton, etc with the consent and assent of all the rest of the parishioners, and at their earnest request, written by me Thomas Pelling, vicar there, the day and year abovesaid. In which year 1565 every man did new make and repair their lot of pale as follows beginning at the church gate and so round to the church gate again:

First the right honourable the earl of Hertford for Westcourts called four yardlands, 40ft; John Piper for one yardland, 10ft; John Stagg for his half yardland called Harryweekes, 5ft; Thomas Banning for his half yardland, 5ft; The tenants of Durley for three yardlands, 32ft; Adam Platt for the Court farm, 40ft; Agnes Pollorne widow, 5ft; John Stagg for his half yardland called Brents, 5ft; Alice Sommerset widow, 5ft; Robert Heath for his half yardland, 5ft; George Noyes for his free land, 10ft; Robert Kelme for his half yardland,

5ft; Thomas Tarrant for his yardland, 10ft; Walter Kingston for his yardland 10ft; John Banning for his yardland, 10ft; John Gregory for one half yardland, 5ft; William Shadwell for his farm which he holds of my lord Sands, 25ft; John Banning for Calves, 5ft; To the tenants of Durley for two yardlands, 18ft; Richard Storey for one yardland called Jeakes, 10ft; Widow Thurman for one yardland at Tymridg down which she holds of the honourable earl of Hertford, 10ft; The vicarage for half yardland, 15ft; Wyboroughes, 5ft; Richard Upton for his wife's land, 10ft; the right honourable earl of Hertford for Earls heath called three yardlands, 30ft; Walter Scory for one half yardland called Dimers, 5ft; John Ball for one half yardland called Sprayes, 5ft; John Hutchins for one half yardland called Ragbornes, 5ft; Christopher Barling for his half yardland, 5ft; Walter Gennance for one half yardland, 5ft; Richard Whitway for his half yardland, 5ft; John Daniell, 5ft; John Ball for his house, 5ft; John Scory for his house that he dwells on being one yardland and a half, 15ft; The parsonage for one yardland, 30ft; John Hutchins for two yardlands called Chalkes, 20ft; Francis Faccot for Mr Bengers land, 5ft; John Widley, Robert Banning, John Morront and Thomas Raynolds for Mr Blake's lands, 35ft; John Morse for his half yardland, 5ft; John North for his half yardland 5ft; Maufryes one half yardland, 5ft; Robert Ragborne for Mr Earl's land, 20ft; John Upton for Goffes land, 10ft; William Tompson for Mr Swatwell's lands, 10ft; Edmund Somerset for his three yardlands, 30ft.

Mr Robert Fenton late of Mere being licensed by the archbishop of Canterbury did preach at Burbage, 19 Apr 1602.

'Walter Kington doeth say that the name of the maide which lyeth under the crosse stone in the Church porch is Dame Formage. She did build the fair crosse at Southmere. *Identified as Seymour Pond, to the S of the village [PNW].*

Mr John Pelling BD, parson of Bath and Trowbridge, a worthy revered preacher of the word of God, and chaplain to the King's Majesty, was buried in the new church of Bath on the north side of the bishop's tomb, close to the grave, 19 Feb 1622. *Pelling's father was Thomas Pelling, vicar of Burbage. His tomb in Bath abbey church called here the new church as it was rebuilt in the mid 16th cent. Another note in the register gives the date of his death as 15 Feb.*

Received of James Hellier the sum of £5 10s by William Walter for the discharge of the parish from a bastard child with the consent of the parish on 4 Apr 1659.

Dorothy Deacon, the wife of Henry Deacon of Durley, gave by her will, with her husband's consent, £4 towards the relief of the poor of Burbage, to remain in stock to their use and relief for ever, and to be let out yearly by the overseers of the said poor, and very sufficient men bound for the payment thereof to the overseers of the next year, and the use and increase thereof, to be by them distributed to the most needy, at their discretion. The said Dorothy was buried 27 May 1624

Christian Noyes, the wife of John Noyes late of West Grafton, yeoman, did by

her last will give 20s towards the relief of the poor of the parish of Burbage, to remain for ever, and the use and increase thereof to be given yearly to the poor and needy at the discretion of the overseers, when they make their account. *Will proved 1621, P5/1621/23*

27 Sep John Lovelock of Purton with a fall of his horse at the pound gate as he was going to Weyhill fair, and was buried 1 Oct 1658

This witnesses I preached at Burbage, 3 May 1646, Thomas Foster, clerk

William May chosen as parish register, 27 Feb 1654, was sworn before William Blissett, 4 Mar 1654.

General register, 1661-1694 (1678/2)

A collection in the parish of Burbage in the year 1670 for the redemption of the poor English captives in Algier: Richard Cherry, vicar, 2s 6d; Francis Noyse, 1s; William Baynten, 1s; John Ragburne, 6d; John Baynten, 6d; Christopher Barley, 2d; Samuel Sadler, 2d; George Tarrant, 6d; Robert Morse, 6d; John Adams, 6d; Richard Rumsey, 2d; William Marrant, 6d; Frances Batt widow, 4d; Henry Scarlet, 4d; John Scarlet, 2d; William Scarlet, 2d; Robert Pye, 4d; John Glyde, 6d; George Biggs, 3d; Edmund Pye, 4d; Edmund Morse, 2d; Ralph Tarrant, 2d; William Reynolds, 2d; Robert Sweeper, 2d; Thomas Evans, 4d; Mary Hilliard widow, 3d; William Checker, 2d; Richard Hunt, 6d; John Philips, 2d; Richard Dore, 1s; James Smith, 4d; Thomas Tarrant, 6d; George Kingston, 3d; Anthony Kingston, 4d; John Kingston, 2d; Anthony Kingston, 4d; Edmund Tarrant, 1s; Edmund Gregory, 6d; William Thompson, 6d; Thomas Morse, 6d; John Andrews, 6d; Francis Barber, 6d; Anne Peeke, 6d; James Peeke, 2d; Thomas Plott, 5d; Gabriel Blanchet, 6d; Henry Deacon, 6d; William Blake, 2d; Thomas Hayes, 8d; George Batt, 4d; John Church, 3d; Philip Pierce, 10d; John Webb, 6d; Henry Pye, 2d; Barbary Pye, 4d; Edmund Sweeper, 1s; Roger Osmond, 4d; Roger Osmond junior, 4d; Edward Savage, 1s; Edward Savage junior, 4d; Thomas Blandy, 6d; Hugh Deacon, 6d; Henry Scarlet, 2d; Thomas New, 2d; Thomas Lovelocke, 2d.

Memo that on the 18h day of January 1681 Francis Noyse of this parish being legally possessed of a certain seat room in the parish church in the south aisle, for and in consideration of the sum of 6s, did assign over all his right, title and interest in the seat room unto James Reeke, which he now enjoys within the parish of Burbage. Richard Cherry vicar, Francis Noyes, James Smieths, John Hillieaerd, Anthony Hamon.

General register, 1751-1789 (1678/6)

Memo a new font of Portland stone set in the middle aisle, 11 Aug 1752.

The vicarage house (by a date on one of the beams) appears to have been built in the year 1631. JSG.

CALNE**General register, 1538-1653 (2083/1).**

This register, part of which is the original paper register, had a volume of churchwardens' accounts, 1527-1672 and pew rents 1631-1683 bound with it in the 19th century. The pew rents have been published in Pew Rents vol. 1

'Christi exemplum est medicamentum vitiorum.' *The example of Christ is the cure of faults.*

1605 constables Benedict Allen and John Jones; note of vagrants punished according to order of law 23 Jan: William Bradshew tailor, Willgever Gravener, John Edwards feltmaker, John Ingram glover.

5 Mar 1618 licence for John Were alias Browne and Dorothy his wife to eat meat during Lent by William Mortimer vicar of Calne.

General register, 1653-1674 (2083/3)

Thomas Rily sworn as parish register, 6 Oct 1653, *Not signed.*

William Page chosen as parish register, sworn before Edward Stokes, 6 Nov 1655

William Pye register in 1655 and clerk of the parish.

Copy of the Act Touching Marriages, Births and Burials, 1653.

Account of sack (wine) and bread consumed at Holy Communion, 1663-1670. *One or two quarts of wine and one or two loaves. Two services on consecutive Sundays at Easter, Whitsun, and Christmas. In 1669 and 1670 two services at the end of Sep and beginning of Oct.*

General register, 1674-1703 (2083/4)

A similar communion account to that in previous register, 1674-1689, with one service at Christmas and one on second Sunday in October.

Humphrey Bodman [parish] clerk 1682,

Sent by a private hand 4 Dec 1695 4 guineas, £6 and distributed according to the direction of the letter. 22 Jan 1697 sent (I suppose) from the same hand £4 which was likewise distributed among the poor.

General register, 1721-1725 (2083/6)

Woods titheable and belonging to the vicar of Calne, 15 Apr 1776:

Whetham wood consisting of Half Field coppice, 10a 8p, cut in the winter 1772; Cascade and Harris Moor coppices sold for £75 and paid £7 10s tithe to Mr Greenwood by Mr Mereweather, steward; Stable Moor, 2a, cut in 1771; Moor coppice, about 2a, and an alder bed near Mount park, called Dippet's copse, cut at the same time, tithe £10 6s total

A coppice upon Nuthills farm near Sandy Lane – Broom's, called Home cop-

pice, 4a, 3a cut and unpaid, 1a standing; also another 2 or 3a near Whetham; also at Whetham pond an ash bed to be cut about 1777 or 8, 1a 11 lugs; also belonging to Whetham, The Thicket, about 4a near Cuff's corner, cut about 2 years ago but claimed tithe free. Note Horse coppice, about 2 or 3a, to be enquired after; also Smith's coppice, one belonging to Broom, the other to Col. Money; that belonging to Broom is the last mentioned above, name unknown being either Horse coppice or Smith's. Edyth Lye owned by Sir Edward Bayntun c7a, now cut.

At Buckhill near Bowood pond an alder bed, Mrs Forman's, cut about 1774, tithe about 10s.

Studley Woods, about 45a, near Studley house, belonging to Mrs Walker, late Hungerford's, at present by composition £5 yearly, cutting only 5a at 9 years' growth.

At Studley also, two coppices belonging to Benedict Brown esq, one adjoining to Bowood Park, the other near to the house on the north east adjoining Mrs Walker's estate, late Hungerford's, being 7a 2 lugs cut in winter 1775, the first a small coppice, about 2a.

At Chilvester Hill, commonly so called, a small coppice belonging to Mr Gale, cut in the winter 1776, sold for £10, tithe £1.

Whitley coppice, 8 or 9a, more or less, cut in 1773, 1774 and 1775.

An ash bed on Samuel Neate's estate at Beversbrook, cut by farmer Hunt 1775, tithe unpaid, uncertain whether in the parish.

Pen coppice, cut at present according to the farm lease in a small quantity yearly for the use of the farmer.

An ash bed belonging to Mr Bishop adjoining to the brook to the north west part of the first Low.

Mrs Forman's withy bed near the Sand's farm pays yearly composition at present. Query whether the whole withy bed grows upon Mrs Forman's estate, and consequently whether the whole is paid for yearly by composition. Stockley coppice, pretty large, belonging to the earl of Shelburne, except a small part where a cottage stood, now or lately belonging to Stephen Hale of Calne. An ash bed on Miss Brooker's estate rented by farmer Pepler, probably to be cut 1776, at the latter end, or 1777.

Woods belonging to the earl of Shelburne and near Bowood park; Holland's Moor Coppice, 6 or 7a, distinguished by the name of Cow Lease Holland's moor; the coppice upon the hanging between the new road and Cowage farm house called Holy Bush Hill, about 2a; Coomb Grove coppice, 9 or 11a, 4½ a 20 lugs cut in 1775; a coppice betwixt the tail of Bowood pond and Cuff's Corner, name unknown; Long Sands Holland's Moor, 5 or 6a, almost ready for cutting.

Withy and alder beds along the river; a withy and alder bed at Hanker's Ham, Benjamin Hale; the alder bed now cut; a small withy bed near Cleverley's Mill, Charles Bleadon, a small one, John Bailly junior, I believe untitheable because they belong to the parsonage; a withy bed, Mr Oriell; a withy bed, Ralph Mortimer, now cut; a withy bed, John Button, paid by composition 4s yearly; an alder bed on both sides of the river, I believe belonging to farmer Buly, a little beyond Duck's Mill; Stephen Hale's withy bed a little beyond Quemerford Mill; also an alder bed beyond on the opposite side of the river.

General register, 1742-1802 (2083/8)

By some accident this register is not perfect from 26 Mar 1748 to 25 Mar 1749; to supply which deficiency care has been taken to make a transcript from a register kept by Jonathan Perkins, the clerk, which ought (as was then customary) to have been regularly transcribed in its proper place, but neglected.

General register, 1803-1823 (2083/9)

Henry Harris parish clerk 2 Dec 1804. *Written on title page.*

Marriage register, 1754-1759 (2083/11)

14 Jul 1753 John Bowman inducted into the vicarage of Calne by Cornelius Norwood, curate there, in the presence of Jonathan Perkins, parish clerk, John Savory, sexton.

CASTLE COMBE**General register, 1653-1692 (2234/1)**

John Blacke sworn as parish register before Nicholas Green; confirmed by William Duckett, 16 May 1654.

General register, 1732-1797 (2234/3)

1775 Communion plate; a large silver flagon, 2 silver patens, all given by Mrs Frances Scrope in 1775, a silver cup which was taken in 1775 in exchange for one given by Richard Scrope in 1721.

1788: Fees to the rector on occasions of breaking the ground in the church and churchyard, and placing tombstones: For breaking the ground each time in any part of the church, except the chancel, which is reserved to the patron and rector, for the time being, and their families, 10s 6d; for a flat stone in the church (no headstone to be allowed there), 5s; for a monument against the wall of the church, 7s 6d; for breaking the ground in the churchyard for one not an inhabitant, 6s 8d; nb the same sum of 6s 8d is to be paid, over and above the 10s 6d abovementioned for breaking the ground in the church, if the person to be buried was not an inhabitant at the time of death; for a headstone in the churchyard, 1s; for a footstone in the same, 6d; for a flat stone in the same, 5s; nb all the inscriptions must be shown to the rector before the stones are fixed. Richard Scrope, rector.

Marriage register, 1754-1812 (2234/6)

Copy of the general directions given by archdeacon Coham to the churchwardens of Castle Combe 22 Jun 1787: To go the bounds of the parish, and once in the ten years; to make casements in the window where wanted for the admission of the air; to remove the earth from the foundation of the church, where it can be done without interfering with graves already made, but in future not to permit a grave to be dug within two yards of the foundation of the church; nor any persons to be buried in the church except where a

brick arch is turned over the grave; ordered a new surplice. *Arthur Coham was archdeacon of Wilts.*

CASTLE EATON

General register, 1549-1653 (637/1)

2 Nov 1604: Imprimis it is agreed by all the parish of Castle Eaton that the farm lying at the south end of the bridge shall repair thereof threescore and a ½ feet.

Next the parsonage has 13½ feet of the bridge to repair; George Paynter 3½ ft; Edmund Tuckwell 20ft 3in; Edmund Kyng 9ft; Richard Crowder, Martin Gregorie and Edward Curtesse 19ft 1½ in; John Eatwell 12ft 3in; John Skinner 16ft 9in; Joan Curtisse 13½ ft; Edward Pryer 24ft. And finally it is agreed that everyman according to his portion must contribute to the making of the trestles and sum[m]ers according to the quantity as one man's planks or sum[m]ers do rest upon their neighbours trestles. *See Glossary for summers.*

16 Nov 1623: Memo the day and year above written that it is agreed and consented among us the inhabitants of Castle Eaton that we have given bond unto the inhabitants of Fairford for the discharge of one Elizabeth Sillton which now remains with John Cureton of Fairford.

Mr William Smyth MA rector, who died in 1627 gave to the poor of the parish £5 committed to the trust of Richard Tuckwell, Humphrey Gregory and John Eatall; it was lent to William Morse, repaid by him; then lent to Humphrey Blackwell, repaid; lent by them to Martin Painter, repaid; and lent to Humphrey Blackwell, whose bond for it and £2 more given by John Prior was delivered to the overseers of the poor, John Skinner and Humphrey Gregory junior, 1666; by me Thomas Staniford, rector.

John Prior of Castle Eaton, who was buried on 28 Jan 1638, gave to the poor of Castle Eaton the sum of 40s, the use whereof is to be paid to them on Good Friday every year by the overseers of the same tithing. Thomas Staniford rector. *For his will P1/P/147.*

William Lea sworn parish register before Robert Hippiisley, *nd, ?1653x1654.* Erit regnum anabaptistarum. Qui tantum constans in knavitate sua. *There will the reign of the Anabaptists. Who is so constant in his trickery. Both written below the appointment of Lea.*

General register, 1654-1719 (637/2)

For Castle Eaton in the county of Wilts Mr Thomas Stanniford, being rector, William Gosmore and Humphrey Blackwell, churchwardens and William Lea, register. Pretium libri 7s 6d. *Price of the book. Title page of the register.*

[22 Sep 1682] The same day happened a sad accident in this parish; for Francis Richens senior, a person always reputed by all that knew him to be a sober, civil and honest man, yet upon some discontent or melancholy, hanged himself in Richard Curtis' Ox house in Bullers – Piece. He was an

unmarried man and commonly called Bachelor Francis. Lord Grant us Thy Preventing Grace.

General register, 1720-1812 (637/3)

Memo that Edward Goddard, lord of the manor, who died in 1724, gave for the use of the poor £10, which is now in the hands of Revd Edward Goddard, his heir and successor rector of this parish.

Memo that Walter Parker esq who had the money that was given to the poor of the parish by Mr Robert Goddard of Kempford, which money was £5, did pay the same with the full interest thereof into the hands of the overseers, all which both principal and interest, was distributed to the poor of the parish in 1728 about Christmas.

Memo 13 Jun 1759 delivered then in writing to William Green, overseer, the default of the certificate not being made in due time according to the Statute for Thomas Alexander's being buried in woollen, C[lement] Headington, curate.

24 Nov 1762 received then of Mr Hughes 10s for the ground and burial of Samuel Cooke junior, by me C[lement] Headington, curate.

28 Aug 1763 received then of Mr Hughes 10s for the ground and burial of Catherine Cook, C[lement] Headington.

Received 25 Dec 1784 of the executors of farmer Thomas Hughes of Highworth 5s for leave to put up a headstone in the churchyard.

CHARLTON (near Malmesbury)

General register, 1661-1744 (1813/1)

Nicholas son of Thomas Haukes buried 4 Jan 1668: 'Quare by whom & A Riott in the church & in the church-yard'. *Entry written by Phillip Lawrence, [curate]. The unrest may have been due to a dispute over a church rate, as a proclamation issued 20 [Apr] 1669 referred to complaints about the 'uniustnesse and inquality' of a rate made by the incumbent; a rate dated 13 Oct 1667 is attached. [D1/41/1/12/92-93]*

General register, 1796-1812 (1813/3)

Charlton glebe lands: Parsons ground, 4a 3r 26p, 4a 2r, 3r 5p; little Leaze, 2a 36p; Great Leaze,

7a 2r 20p; Lords Leaze, 6a 3r 30p, 2a 1r; Webbs Leaze, 7a 20r; Dry Leaze, 2a 3r 20p; Barn Close, 2a 32p; Churchyard, 1r 10p; total 41a 2r 39p.

CHILMARK

General register, 1653-1751 (1406/1)

William Macy of Chilmark sworn register before Walter South, 23 May 1654; William being chosen register last Michaelmas began his registering then although he had not yet sworn.

12 Mar 1664 upon difference betwixt the inhabitants of Knook and us

about the providing for Anne Stephens, the wife of Richard Stephens, it was agreed that for and in consideration of £3 in hand paid to us for the use of the poor of Chilmark here Anne should be received as an inhabitant here (although she was born in Knook) and to be provided for as long as she is impotent; but if she happen to become intended to Knook and become a parishioner there again that then the parish of Chilmark to be no longer chargeable with her. In witness whereof we of Knook have hereunto set our hands the day abovesaid.

When we required Goodman Hewlett and one Richard Clase to sign this, at the time the overseers and churchwardens of Chilmark, set their hands to the church book of Knook, there was inserted before their names this following: Memo that in case Anne shall hereafter become a legal inhabitant in Knook that from thenceforth the parish of Chilmark shall not be chargeable with Anne. This was in the presence of William Helme, Thomas Lucas, John Jesse, Thomas Hayward, his wife and William Macy.

CHILTON FOLIAT

General register, 1648-1663 (735/3) *Medieval mss for cover*

John Carraway sworn as parish register before William Blissett, 24 Aug 1653.

General register, 1663-1705 (735/4)

'June the 28th 79 [1679] at or about 6 of clock in the evening Hapepened a dreadfull fyer which Burned the house that Sam Cooke Lived in & the Lyon that the widdow Spackman lived in with most of their Goods.'

'A trew account of the Clerks dewes in particuler as it was received by Jos[eph] Harper parish Clerk in the yeare 1679 being ritten by my owne hand which Received the particulers hereafter nominateed: Received of the widow paine for burying her sone being a Child about 6 weeks old, for diging the grave on shiling: for Ringing the Knell one shilling: for entering his name in the Reiester fower pence: when a Child baptised then the dew Received was fower pence for entering the Childs name in the reiester to pence for putting water in the fonte when any was married then his fees was one shilling & six pence & one ester munday fower pence of every housekeeper in the parish that is to say ever family in the house or houses & ten shilings a yeare for washing the Church Lining: & eightten pence a yeare for shutining of bel Rops & twelve pence a yeare for oyle for the bels & six shilings & Eightpence a yeare for Keeping the Accounts for the overseers of the Poore & twelve pence for macking of every tax for the Poore and eightten pence for every tax for the Church wardens that is twelpence for Chilton and Souley & sixpence for Leverton and eighteen pence for every Coppy out of the Reiester which was Commonly every yeare & was Paid by the churchwardens unto the Clerk and two shilings a yeare for macking the Churchwardens Accounts at Easter'

'On the fift day of March in the yeare 1694/5 was buried Queen Mary the second and that day I touled the great bell from nine in the morning untel tenn & from two untel three in the after none & from five untel six at nighte'

and Received for toulng the bel that daye being paid at the Easter following by the parish consent of the Churchwardens whose names was Robert Parks and John Spanswicke the sum of 3s'

26 Jul 1696 baptised 'Grace the daughter of John Watson a souldier and of Mary his wife whoe was carried with a passe from tything to tything & soe was brought to bed in the wheate sheafe leavinge her husband as she said at portsmouth'

13 Jun 1692 Joseph Harper had been clerk 13 years.

General register, 1705-1764 (735/5)

'Stel not this Book Good Jentel Frind

Lest Tiber be your Later End'. *Written at the start of the register and repeated in a fairer hand at the end of the book on 7 Mar 1778, with more standardised spelling including Tyburn [the place of public execution in London, hence the generic hanging place] instead of Tiber.*

'In Perpetuum Rei Memoriam : That vertuous Gentlewoman Mrs Mary Bigg gave to the parish of Chilton Foliat a silver chalice with a cover out of her unfeigned Love to Religion and the service of God to be used by the Parishioners at the Celebration of the Holy Communion.' *Written by the same hand as the title page of the register.*

Jane Harper at Mr Tilsons in Oxford Road near Roland (Barrick) Street, London

John Harper clerk of Chilton Foliat, 1778, 1780.

General register, 1765-1812 (735/7)

29 Sep 1783 The register book purchased in 1765, having been indifferently attended to, and being nearly effaced in several pages, it was thought advisable to have the whole of it carefully transcribed into this, to the above date, and the copy faithfully compared with the original; compared and found to be a true copy by us, Edward Meyrick, minister, Benjamin Mallam, churchwarden; parishioners names witness of its authenticity, Roger Spanswick, William Palmer, George Holloway, John Palmer, Thomas Kimber, William Jacob, Joseph Harper. [*Register*] Transcribed by Richard Weaver.

CHIPPENHAM

General register, 1578-1644 (811/6)

John Snypet his feoffees: Nicholas Baron gent, Walter Fynamore gent, Henry Goldny, John Goldny junior, William Goldny, John Goldney his son, Henry Spycer, William Predy, Robert Chessham, William Godwyn, John Godwyn, Richard Pope, Robert Baker, John Ilfercomb, John Payne, Edward Averye. John Goldny senior was feoffee before these, 8 Feb 21 Hen VII 1506. John Punter, Eleanor wife of William ?Marler.

Elizabeth Pelowes, John Pelowes, Bridget ?Tolas. *Written in a different hand.* Uterius per ?imptendam ult' voluntatem Johanus Snypet predicti [*Further through the ?implementation of the last will of the said John Snypet*]. *Written by Wiliam Proudlove, viar from 1602, on the margin of a fragment of a medieval manuscript bound into the register in a mid 16th century hand, as are the following three notes. The context of the first is unclear but it may refer to John Snypet rector of Hardenhuish 1410-1467.*

'Gatherd Gyven to Rich Marshall and Martyn Marshall widowe in the county of Berkes for their losse that they had by burning the sum of 2s 6d.' *Undated probably early 17th cent.*

'The court kept on Tuisday next after midlente Sunday Mr ?Bell the day after the court ended said speaking of his absolution these wordes 'A ... of god on such a blessing go' in the hearing of Master Palmer and John Bond, and found fault with more because I wold have l... both knaves and said he wold be even with ?...de.' *Another obscure note probably mid-late 16th cent, probably referring to the outcome of a case heard before an ecclesiastical court.*

Phi[lip] buried 10 Jan 1617 was brought from William Higgens house and confessed by him and his wife to be ... by Edward Small of Winterbourne by the body of Elizabeth Gardiner of Broad Hinton. *The burial record in the register is for Phillip son of Elizabeth Gardiner of Broad Hinton.*

'Lorde graunte me understandinge that I maye be perficte in thye most holye wordes.'

'Eli Eli lama sababhani o my god
 Whey hast thou for saken me this sayd ...
 in his flesh by extremity when bare ...
 wholeborne of mans mesery to pacify his ...
 effectually to bringe us to his felicity with him ...
 eternally now man Remembre well thy ...
 how ons thou weare a reprobate no creator save
 by adams fall a great afaulte

The first two lines are Mathew ch 27 v 46; the rest a commentary on the text, late 16th cent.

'When I henry nash was chosen clarke by the whole consente I strayt way wrote thys wordes in contenet
 the vij day of Awguste as heare may be seenne
 in the xxvijth th yeare of the Rayne of oure quene,
 Mr Willaim Chavefen being then vycar, of this can Recorde
 yt was the date 1586 of our lorde'. *William Chalfont in Phillipps.*
 >'Henry nashe methinketh that you beinge suche a learned Clarke as you be shoulde not, in suche like vile, abused and difficulte maner, penne the names of the christened, married and decessed as they nowe bee. for they be so written now that one cannot without greate industrie and labour knowe

the names of those whose sonne or daughter it is that is baptised, married or buried. For the better accomplishing therefor of your Duetye in this behalfe I have set downe a brefe rule at the end of the names of those which were baptised in the yeare of our lorde in your ver[es] above wrighten. In fine [*Latin In conclusion*] hopeinge that you will (cum hasta et scuto) [*literally with a spear and shield; possibly meaning with endeavour*] fullfill my desier I commend you with my hartly commendaciones to the chefe shepherde of our soule. Otherwise actum est de amicitia. Vale. [*This is done out of friendship. Farewell*] Yours at all assaye, Si M. B.’< *The identity of the author of this note is unclear; William Chalfont was vicar then; he may have been one of the churchwardens or even a curate serving the parish.*

‘You muste set downe the names of theyr fathers and of their god fathers and god mothers thus you must write at the beginninge of every yeare and the mother as Mr Walker has written.’ *This rule was written by the heading for baptisms for 1587, William Walker was vicar from 1574-1582. It appears to have been largely ignored by Nash.*

Thomas Banks was elected clerk by the whole consent of the parish 10 Apr 1597.

General register, 1653-1737 (811/7)

‘The names of such who were baptized in the yeares 1646, 47, 48, 49, 50, all which were registred by the then Parish Clerke John Bond in a small paper booke. Its testor [*Thus I am witness*] Johnathan Giare, vicar. [*After entries for 1650*] From this yeare untill Sep 29th 1653 the Register-Booke (by reason of the discord in Church & State) was neglected, in that yeare it began to bee in use againe.’

Received 5th Nov 1653 of Mr Francis Stokes by the appointment of Edward Stokes esq the sum of 40s in full for this parchment register book, I say received per John Owen.

Copy of the Act Touching Marriages, Births and Burials, 1653.

Edward Berry, scrivener, sworn as parish register by Edward Stokes, 2 Jan 1654. *He was buried 16 Nov 1659.*

25 Mar 1675 The high seat next to ?Loxwell seat at the end of the chancel belongs now to the vicar’s family because the Forresters are not of the parish and so no ways concerned in the seats of the church. Jonathan Giare vicar. *This is probably a reference to officers of the forest of Chippenham.*

CHIRTON

General register, 1589-1683 (511/2)

Notes by John White, vicar, who signed many of them, entered among the records of baptisms and burials: Here ends the writing of Mr (Richard) Stockton (alias Plevy), at whose decease this book being lost for divers years the copy sent into the registry for 1614 was imperfect. He was vicar from 1579 to 1614.

1614 this year the leads were new cast. 1615 here begins the time of John

White, vicar, inducted 24 Feb 1615. 1616 I gave 10s towards a pulpit. 1617 the chancel was roofed and repaired by the impropiators Francis Neale and Paul Knight. 1623 Robert Bewley buried 11 Jun, he gave the pulpit cloth to the chancel, which was stolen about 1648 [*the last phrase was added*]. 1629 this year I gave to the church a new Communion table and carpet. 1630 by the impropiators' charge the roof of the chancel was renewed and a window made; the east end wall of the church new built and the roof renewed at the parish charge; I gave some timber towards the repairing of the roof of the church. 1631 The church was new painted. I gave the painting of the church. 1632 I gave the wainscot in the chancel. 1633 this year I placed the minister's seat in the chancel, formerly broken in pieces by the fall of the wall; and was paved the chancel by the chancellor's appointment in my right as vicar; and removed the pulpit which cost me 11s freely. Mary Griffen was buried 21 Sep 1633, she gave the 'houore glasse'. 1634 the new wainscot seats were made and finished at the joint charge of the parishioners according to the sittings belonging to their livings etc., and by authority under the seal of the chancellor I erected a seat for myself and my successors. The seat erected in the church in 1634 confirmed by the Chancellor to the wife and assigns of me and every of my successors on 4 Jul 1637 as appears in the records of Sarum. 1636 this year the church for a good part was repaved and the greatest part of the remainder repaired by the parishioners, also the chancel written and painted and the tower renewed and coloured, by John White. 1636 I gave the new board whereon Thomas Hiscock was first carried to be buried. 1637 year the rail in the chancel made at the charges of the parishioners.

Joan Whitlocke alias Alexander, the servant of Roger Lowne, poisoned her dame and cast herself in to Lownes well; and being taken thence did poison herself with ratsbane and died at justice Noyes his house at Urchfont 4 Nov 1617, and was buried between Conock and Chirton at Middleway. *As a suicide she was denied a Christian burial but was buried at a tithing boundary. Ratsbane is arsenic. Margery Lowne who was poisoned was buried 15 Nov 1617.*

1643 Jul 13 being Thursday was the great fight on Roundway hill in the which William Bartlet was shot in the forehead and was buried in martial wise at Rowde; he was baptised 26 Mar 1615; he was chief quartermaster to the noble colonel Mr Sands. A cloud like a lion rampant azure was over the army fighting. *White added to his baptism record that this was the first he performed in Chirton.*

A memorial of John Gilbert of Conock buried 29 Mar 1620; Edith Gilbert buried 12 Dec 1591; John Edith Gilbert anagram Bring hye lot:
 Who iiij & twise ij babes hie lot did bring
 Within ij yeares all viij baptised, seven dead,
 Died worn with griefes & painfull child bearing
 Tis rare yet true and all in marriage bed. By me, John White vicar.

'Anne Bartlett Lavington buried 15 Mar 1653 Anagram Bee Loving lent ?art an Ant; she was a true hardt industrious woman & kind but ...
 like bee Loving <...> sought honny

kept a sting ... painful as ant ... he nearest her woe did bringe.'

Note by John White, vicar: Ex warranto : Commission at Devizes 2 Oct 1637 [before] H. Hyde and Ro. Corham:

28 Sep [1587] Queen Elizabeth granted to Charles Baggot all that close called the [Hixe] containing ?half an acre and two yardlands in Chirton sometime in the possession of John Eyre and parcel of the monastery of Hyde near Winchester; rent 10s 6d. John Farre and Roger Lench swore that there is no such close. *Year and field name supplied from the original Patent Roll which describes the two virgates (sic) as part of the arable common lands of Chirton (TNA C66/1288 mm 19-20).*

21 Mar 3 Eliz [1589] Queen Elizabeth granted to Edward Wymark one cottage and a little parcel of land in Chirton being 20 ft in breadth and 40 ft in length in the tenure of John Arnold; rent 6d. this is the church house etc since taken down and ?'falinge' at the church gate.

Also 34 Eliz [1591-1592] Queen Elizabeth granted to William Typper the manors of Conock, Marsh and Rambridge; rent 10s. *The enquiry may have been about the vicar's right to rectorial tithes in Chirton and Conock: VCH 10 pp 65, 69-70; WRS 65 pp 91-3.*

Subsidies to be paid 11 Oct visitation at Lavington 16d. *Undated probably late 17th cent; probably a reference to procurations, a payment due from the parish to cover expenses of ecclesiastical visitation or administration.*

Note of presentments by the churchwardens made at the archdeacon's visitations at Market Lavington, 13 Apr 1697; all is well: And 15 May 1719; presentment not recorded.

General register, 1683-1729 (511/3)

1709; 3 bells and the Saints' bell taken down and weighed, 12 Jul; carried away to Aldbourne

, 4 Aug; cast into five bells, 5 Aug; taken out of the moulds, 6 Aug; brought to Chirton, 20 Aug; weighed and pulled up again, 22 Aug; all five chimed, 2 Sep; all rung in peal, 3 Sep; the first peal by Nathan Cooper the treble, John Bigg the second, Thomas Palmer the third, Robert Amer the fourth, and James Cooper the tenor.

The bells weighed out: 36½ cwt. 9lb: weighed back 36 ¾ cwt 20lbs

Long Hundreds:

In Short Hundreds

The treble 4cwt 2qtr 26lb

5.30 The treble 5.30

The second 5cwt 2qtr 16lb

6 3.2 more than the first 100

The third 6cwt 2qtr 22lb 7.

54 more than the second 121

The fourth 8cwt 1qtr 22lb

9.4.6 more than the third 19.2

The fifth 11cwt 1qtr 14lb

12 7 4 more than the fourth 331

Total 36 3 20

41 3 6 1274

The long cwt standard 112lb replaced the older standard cwt of 108lb, known as the short cwt.

General register, 1729-1761 (511/4)

9 Jul 1753 was buried Rebecca Goodford, an infant, about 20 weeks old. The mother says her name is Elizabeth Goodford, born in the parish of Yeovil, Somerset. And that her husband died about 8 weeks before the said infant was born at Yeovil; that he as an inhabitant of Wes[t]minster, but being at Yeovil at work on some branch of the leather business; viz making of breeches and gloves, he married her there; and that she was now upon the road going to Wes[t]minster, that being her late husband's parish. This declaration was made before me in the hearing of Robert Reeves and John Lye.

Mary Carr, a travelling woman, had a female child born at Conock, 15 Jul 1754; she declared herself to be the wife of Thomas Carr of Poole, Dorset; that her maiden name was Bane and that her mother is now living in Wells, Somerset; and produced a copy of the register of her marriage of which the underwritten is a true copy:

These are to satisfy whom it may concern, that Thomas Carr and Mary Bane were married at St Andrews Holborne, London on 20 May 1753, according to the rites and ceremonies of the Church of England as appears by the register in the custody of John Rice.

See the registering of the child in its proper place of christenings.

CHISELDON

General register, 1641-1758 (639/1)

Henry Crips, clerk of the parish, sworn as parish register before William Sadler, nd 1653 or 1654.

Memo; 10 Jan 1663, that Roger Shipman was inducted into the vicarage of Chiseldon by Richard Smith, vicar of Liddington, on the deprivation of John Baker, in the presence of Oliver Calley gent. Witnesses: George Jaques gent, Philip Barnes gent, William Croome senior, John Ponting.

John Baker magno populi seductore sub specie ministeri, [*great deceiver of the people under the guise of minister*]], left Chiseldon 24 Aug 1662.

27 Sep 1712 Umfrevile Fayerer BD and fellow of Magdelene college, Oxford, was inducted into the vicarage.

General register, 1759-1802 (639/3)

The parish of Chiseldon in the county of Wilts, being of a large extent and the inhabitants thereof very numerous, the duty occasioned thereby more particularly requires a resident minister, and as the income of the living is deemed insufficient for that purpose (it amounting not more than £35 pa) it is humbly proposed, for the benefit of the present incumbent and his successors, to raise the sum of £200 by the voluntary contribution of those who are well-wishers to the establishment of the church of England, and the decent appointments of its ministers in order to the obtaining the Queen Anne's Bounty to be settled on the said vicarage for ever.

We therefore those whose names are hereunto subscribed have agreed and promise to contribute the sums opposite to our respective names, for the accomplishment of the aforesaid good design, Dec 21 1757: William Calley esq

£100; Thomas Goddard esq £5 5s; Revd Mr Nichols £5 5s; Thomas Vilet esq £2 2s; Richard Goddard esq £2 2s; John Michell esq £2 2s; Mrs Brown £5 5s; Miss Morgan £2 2s; Mr Colborne £2 2s; John Stone esq £10 10s; Mrs Willoughby £2 2s; Jemmett Raymond esq £5 5s; Peter Legh esq £5 5s; Mrs Horner £49 6d; John Jacob esq £2 2s. Total £200 9s 6d.

One leaf cut out to write a copy of the register, Michael Wait clerk 16 Jul 1799. *For the Bishops transcript.*

CHITTERNE ALL SAINTS

General register, 1713-1812 (1109/1)

4 Apr 1776 At a vestry meeting it was resolved that the thanks of the churchwardens and principal inhabitants be given to Robert Michell esq for a present of a green pulpit cloth embroidered with gold and green silk fringe and also for a green cushion. Samuel Biggs, James Sanders, churchwardens, Thomas Moody, Richard Bartle, William Windsor.

CHITTERNE ST MARY

General register, 1653-1798 (1109/5)

An order made at Quarter Sessions, 10 Jan 1654: Chitterne All Saints and Chitterne St Mary being small parishes and close adjoining to each other, by virtue of the late Act of Parliament touching the registering of marriages, births and burials, are united by us whose names are subscribed Justices of the Peace for Wilts, and from henceforth are to be accounted one parish as to matters only within the said Act; William Yorke, John Dove, Francis Swanton, Edward Michell. *This is the original order; a copy does not appear to have been enrolled at the Quarter Sessions. The Act came into effect on 29 Sep 1653.*

31 May 1654 Note that Edmund Moody of Chitterne St Mary, elected by the inhabitants of Chitterne St Mary and Chitterne All Saints as parish register, has sworn his oath before Edward Michell.

‘Advent all Marriages forbids
 Hillaries Feast Nuptials tends
 And Septuagent no wedding rids
 Yet Easter’s octaves that amends
 Rogation hinders hastie loves
 But Trinity that lets removes.
 Conjuium Adventus prohibet; hilarius relaxat
 Septuagena vetat, Pasce octava remittit
 Rogamen vertitit concedit Trina potestas.’

The close seasons for marriages were important dates for incumbents and parish clerks to be aware of.

CHOLDERTON

General register, 1652-1812 (1293/1)

Notes by Samuel Heskins, rector.

Mr Samuel Heskins was by the lady Kingsmill presented to the rectory of Cholderton 4 Dec 1651, and from that time began this register, he finding none before that time.

Mr William Noyes, rector of Cholderton about 30 years, departed this life 1616; Mr Nathan Noyes succeeded his father and departed this life 1651; Mr Samuel Heskins succeeded Mr Nathan Noyes in the rectory of Cholderton, and he finding the parsonage house, the barn, stable and all the outhouses out of repair and almost fallen to the ground through the neglect of the former incumbent, who in the Civil War was some years absent from Cholderton and never after resident there, but dwelt at Sarum because the parsonage house at Cholderton was not habitable, he the said Mr Heskins, at his own cost and charge, began to build up the dwelling house, barn, stable and outhouses. Here follows an account of the several reparations and buildings with the sums of money paid for them: 1652 for the posts, rails and pales before the dwelling house next to the street and to the carpenter for setting them up, £2; for repairing the whole roof of the dwelling house, for all materials and workmanship, £4 16s; for boarding and ceiling the hall chamber, £2 12s; for digging a well and for all materials belonging thereunto, £1 17s; 1653 for building the stone wall in the side of the hall next the garden and for ceiling the hall and for boarding the hall, the materials and workmanship and for glass for the windows, £5; for rafters, lathes, braces for the barn and for wattles for the sides of the barn and for thatching the barn, £5 18s; for building the high stone wall in the wash house next the garden, all the materials and workmanship and for boarding and ceiling the chamber over the wash house, £4 10s; 1659 for building the parlour at the north east end of the house, ceiling it, setting up the chimney, glazing the windows, all the materials and workmanship, £7 18s; 1663 for boarding, ceiling and fitting the chamber over the said parlour, £2 15s; 1667 for building all the stone wall of the house next Hold close and for setting up the kitchen chimney, all the materials and the workmanship, £12 17s; for ceiling the study and fitting it, all the materials and the workmanship, £2 7s; 1669 for boarding and ceiling the kitchen, all the materials and the workmanship, £2 4s; for boarding the chamber over the kitchen, all materials and the workmanship, £2; 1679 for setting up the cart house, the timber materials and the workmanship, £3; 1703 for building up the wall in the south east side of the dwelling house, for the mason's work and the carpenter's work and for all the materials pertaining to building in Apr 1703, £3 15s 6d; for a new well 'kirbe' posts, tumbrel & box, £1 1s 6d; for repairing the chancel, the dwelling house, the barn, the stable, the cart house, all these in part uncovered and the rafters, some of them broken, by that great tempestuous wind 26 & 27 Nov 1703, £7 6s.

The parish church of Cholderton being repaired and the seats of the church new erected, the seats were disposed of by the minister, churchwarden, overseer and other the parishioners in manner following 24 Sep 1659:

Seats on the north side; the seat adjoining to the chancel belongs to the Upper farm; the next seat being the second from the chancel belongs to the 2½

yardlands of Thomas Rutter; the next seat being the third from the chancel belongs to the yardland of Robert Noyes.

The next seat below is for the Lower farm; the next seat thereunto is for the 2½ yardlands of Thomas Rutter; the next man's seat is for the yardland of Robert Noyes; the lowest seat behind the church door is for such women of the parish as the minister and churchwarden shall adjudge fit to sit there; the 3 uppermost seats on this side are for men and the other for women.

Seats on the south side; the seat adjoining to the reading place is for the Lower farm; the next seat below is for the one yardland belonging to Mr Jonathan Hill; the next seat below is for the half yardland of John Beamon and the house in Hold Close.

The next seats below are for the yardlands of Mr Hill; the next seats below are for the half yardland of John Beamon and for the house in Hold Close; the lowest seat next to the church door is for such women of the parish as the minister and churchwarden shall adjudge fit to sit there; the 3 uppermost seats on this side are for men and the other for women.

Memo on Sun 26 Aug 1705 Revd Dr Gilbert Burnet, bishop of Sarum, preached in the parish church of Cholderton, his text was Acts 24 v16, and after his sermon he confirmed such persons of the parish as were presented to him by me, Samuel Heskins, rector.

Memo on Sun 10 Feb 1745 I signified to the parishioners, in time of divine service, that I had chose Thomas Spring, clerk of this parish, in the room of his father deceased, Edward Beckham, rector. Thomas Spring senior was buried 3 Mar 1745.

Money collected Christmas day 1759 and given as follows: to Jonathan Dix 3s 6d; Widow Spring, 1s 6d; Widow Harding, 1s 6d; R Harding's wife, 2s; J Cundick's wife, 1s 6d; Widow Cole, 1s 6d; Ann Dix, 1s 6d; Caleb Dudman, 2s 6d; Widow Clifford, 2s 6d; Mary Dudman, 1s 6d; Mary Harding 1s 6d; Susan Wheeler, 1s 6d; Widow Dix, 1s 6d. Total £1 4s.

CHRISTIAN MALFORD

General register, 1653-1706 (1710/1)

The old parish register was burned in the house of Mr John Ferris of Frog lane, where the curate Mr William Piggott lived. The house being fired by lightning and here noted by John Stump, curate, 1693.

22 Oct 1653 Richard Wright was elected parish register as appears by a certificate made and shown to us under the hands of the greater part of the inhabitants of Christian Malford chargeable to the relief of the poor of the same parish, approved and sworn by William Eyre, William Shute esqs, 10 Nov 1653.

'...ssed after the maner of their marriages whether by the ... jointly with the Minister or solely by the Justiceard ... names of those who received them

in Baptisme or any other ght wholly laide aside the Ordinance) & these are signified . . . lastly is entered the deaths, burials or covering with earthe . . . ion place for burial or else the presence of . . .? *This explanatory note follows the title to marriages in 1653. Its edges have been deliberately obliterated with ink.*

William Dolman, minister was buried 9 Mar 1654. The burial of Abortiva, daughter of William Gough, priest, and his wife Anne took place on 20 May 1654.

Memo that William Peirs DD was legally inducted and possession had given him of the rectory of Christian Malford on 14th day of May in the year of our Lord God 1662 in the presence of us whose names are underwritten: Edmund Tillesley rector of Draycot Cerne, John Ferris vicar of Sutton Benger, William Piggott curate, Ambrose Richman, John Peirs, John Ferris junior, Richard Wright parish clerk.

Memo that William Peirce DD and rector of Christian Malford, on 15 Jun 1662, read the book of articles of religion in the parish church of Christian Malford in the time of divine service and thereunto did give his full assent and consent in the presence of us whose names are here under written; William Piggott curate, William Weebb (X) and John Rimill (X) churchwardens, Ambrose Richman, Richard Wright, William Trimmell, Thomas Bishopp, John Stilles, Ralfe Rimell junior (X), Frances Rimell, John Sellman, Richard Bealle.

6 Jul 1662 Memo that William Pierce DD, rector, affirmed his belief in the doctrines in the Book of Common Prayer afore the congregation at morning and evening prayer. Witnesses: John Reymell, churchwarden, John Ferris, vicar of Sutton Benger, Samuel Kinaston, rector of Great Somerford, William Piggott, curate, William Trimmell, John Stilles, Ambrose Richman, John Bradbury.

17 Aug 1662 Record of subscription as above. Witnesses: William Webb (X), churchwarden, William Piggott, curate, Richard Wright, parish clerk, John Reymell, John Sellman, Richard Beale, John Peirs, Samuel ?Docham, William Trimmill, Ambrose Richman, Edward Palmer.

Memo that on 29 Mar 1674 the churchwardens and overseers of Christian Malford did take into their hands a bill for £10 given to them by William Peirse DD rector, for the true payment of the said £10 with lawful interest, which bill the officers are to deliver to those who shall succeed them in the said offices, for the uses expressed in the bill and for successively it is to continue in the custody of the said officers for the time being; Thomas Bishop, Anthony Hurst (X), churchwardens, Robert Peacock, overseer of the poor. *The purpose of the sum was probably kept as stock to be loaned to parishioners in time of need to enable them to be self reliant and not to require poor relief.*

30 Sep 1682 Baptist Levinz STB [*Sacre Theologicae Baccalaarius, ie BD bachelor of divinity*] was inducted into the rectory of Christian Malford by Revd Dr

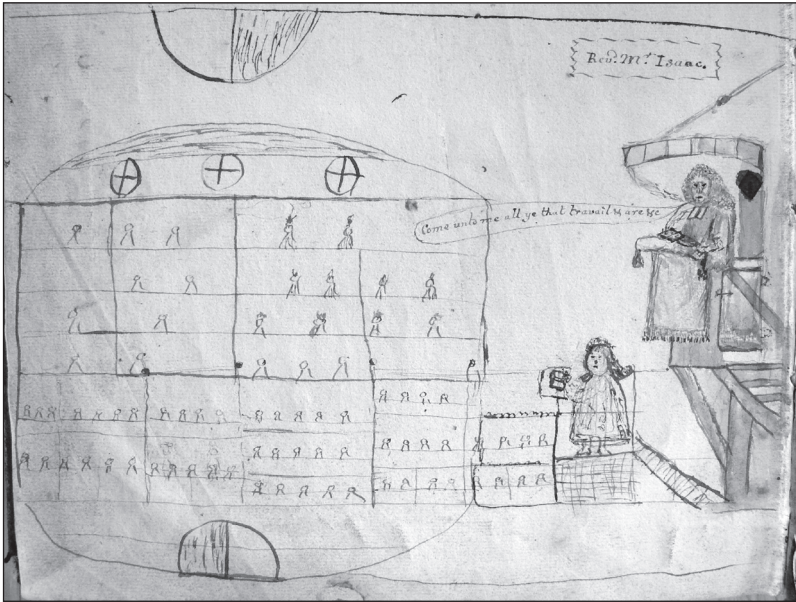
Townson, vicar of Bremhill in the presence of John Tounson, clerk, James Cooke, curate, William Pullin, William King, John Cooke, Charles Gingell, parish clerk.

Sunday 1 Oct 1682 Memo of the subscription to the established doctrine by Baptist Levinz BD. Witnesses: John Atkyns, James Cooke, curate, Henry Nicholson, John Hulbert (X), churchwardens, Thomas Ody, John Cooke.

27 Jan 1684 Thomas Persons alias Seager, Henry Price, William Dory, Widow Ryley, Bridget Bernard and her sons George Bernard and John Bernard were announced excommunicate by an order from the archdeacon of Wilts for not repairing to their parish church, by me James Cooke. They were denounced excommunicate again, 8 Nov 1685.

10 Jul 1725 John Bernard was absolved from the sentence of excommunication, by me William Itchener, rector.

General register, 1706-1775 (1710/2)



Baptist Isaac was curate from c1750-1757. He was rector of Horn, Rutland from 1757. Bishops' transcripts, D1/51/5, and AC. The speech bubble reads: 'Come unto me all ye that travail & are sic' (Matthew 11, v. 28)

Vestry 15 Feb 1734 about ceiling the church; votes stood:

For ceiling, Mr Richard Burgess, Francis Wheeler, John Smith, Richard Pinegar, Charles Trimnel, Mathew Hopkins, Joseph Pulen, Thomas Saunders.
Against; nobody. William Pulsford, curate.

19 May 1752 Receipt for £1 1s collected for Propagating the Gospel in Foreign Parts, received of the Rev Dr White.

CHUTE

General register, 1580-1793 (627/1) *A gathering of three books integrated into baptisms, marriages, & burials, and bound together in 1840.*

The title page is bordered with quotations; Job 14 v1 in Latin and 1 Peter 1v 24 in Greek.

The start of each section has other quotations from the bible: Christenings 'He that shall beleve and be baptized shalbe saved, Mark 16 v16; *Marriages* 'marriage is honourable amongst all men & the bed undefiled', Hebrew 13 v4; *Burials*, 'Blessed are the deade, which hereafter die in the lord; even so saith the spir-ite, that they rest from their labours' Apoc [*Apocrypha recte Revelation*] 14 v 13

There was a proclamation concerning his majesty's declaring himself about the Scottish rebellion commanded to be read in all churches at morning prayers, in the time of divine service, which accordingly was performed in the parish church of Chute, 17 Mar 1639. Robert Sotwell

Henry Jolly, clerk, sworn as parish register before Edward Tooker, 10 Apr 1654. He was also sworn as parish register for Hippenscombe lodge and Chute forest.

The first page of each section of the register for 1654 has an appropriate quotation. Baptisms; I indeed Baptize you with water unto repentance, Mathew 3 v1, with one from St Augustine: Marriages; Nevertheless, let every one of you in particular so love his wife, even as himselfe, and the wife see, that revered her husband; Letters to the Ephesians 5 v 33; with two from St Ambrose: Burials, In the sight of the unwise they seemed to die, and their departure is taken for misery. And there going, from us to be utter destruction, but they are in peace; Wisdom 3 v 2,3; with one from St Ambrose and one from Ovid. Henry Jolly was vicar 1634-1680.

A note of the names of such children as were bound apprentice in the parish of Chute, 27 Sep 1619; according to the statute the men children till their several ages of 24 and the women children till 21 years by Gregorie Morrart and William Summersett and Thomas Blanchard, overseers of the poor of the said parish by the assent of Sir Anthony Hungerford and Nicholas Hyde esq, two of the justices of the Peace of the county of Wilts and of the division where the said parish does lie.

Rose Fox bound to William Corderoy esq; Agnes Gerle bound to Richard Sotwell gent; Francis Dudman bound to Thomas Summersett; Thomas Hayes bound to John Goslynge; Elizabeth Fox bound to Edward Hapgood.

Witnesses: Anthony Hungerford, Nicholas Hyde, Gregory Morrart, Richard Hapgood (X), William Summersett (X), Thomas Blanchard.

1617 John Goodale having wrought all day in the new garden of William

Corderoy gent, 20 Jun, and going homewards there hence in very good health through the coniger of the said William with some neighbours, after his day's work ended, used to them these or the like words: 'Mr Sotwell, my landlorde doth threaten to pull downe mine house after my death: But I am likely enough to live yet 40 years more, but when my wife shall die' (who was many years younger than himselfe) 'he shal not need to pull downe mine house for I will doe it myselfe, and putt it in my pursse and goe and dwell with a brother of mine who is worth £300, for he hath spoken to me alreadie so to doe as soone as I shall be single: And so he gave me of late a good - coate, which I sould to one that made hurdles for me for 5s'. Who having spoken to this effect and being gotten over the stile fast by the lodge there, and gone from it, thus talking, about some 2 or 3 yards of ground, he fell down suddenly dead and was buried 21 Jun.

1622 A note of Chute procession taken at Rogation week by me Thomas Groome, vicar accompanied by those whose names are subscribed:

The three days procession; from the church down Holane and at the end of Hoelane over against Mr Sotwell's lodgings a gospel was read; from thence to Hatch gate and from thence up the hollow way by old lands and under Hatch gate coppice along the way to Prickett lawn and so between Prickett lawn and Hoocke wood to Fox oak >Fox Oak, now down, stood near the Holy tree< and so up winding Knap under North Lammas coppice to Lady lawn and along Lady lawn under the coppice to the south side of the dale or Dell and from thence along the ridge to white scrape near to Henpathe against the parting of the North and South Lammas coppices and from thence along the old ditch to the bottom bushes by the highway on Coleridge corner, and from thence to the ditch where one Mundaye, who drowned himself in Mr Sotwell's well at Standeane, was buried, and from thence to Procession Oak, where a gospel was read, and so upon Thomas Deane under Collingbourne woods homeward to the church.

2nd days procession; from the church to Mr Corderoy's house and from thence to the corner of Collingbourne woods over against little Cockroade coppice corner and from thence along close under the woods to Fair Oaks lane gate where a gospel was read; from thence to narrow lane end and from thence still under the woods up Eatons green to the west corner of Shaw down and from thence under one Mr Bridges and Mr Andros their coppices to Henpath lane and through Henpath lane to Shaw cross where a gospel was read; and from thence to the heath and so along the bank of the ditch, next one John Andros down, to Stritt gate, where Tidcombe, Collingbourne Kingston and Chute parishes part, where a gospel was read; from thence under Black down along the top of the ditch, next Hippenscombe to Mr Corderoy his Gosmore Down corner where a gospel was read, and so homeward to church by Cow Down lane.

3rd days procession; from the church again to Mr Corderoy's Gosmore Down corner and from thence under Sir George Phillott's Gosmore down along the top of the ditch unto East Oak Down corner and from thence, by a place in the Cleeve called the Holy Bush, to the corner of Etheridge coppice and so close under the coppice until you come right over against the outside of

Oakhole where you cross over the bottom highway to the corner of Tuckers coppice, parcel of Oakhole aforesaid, and from thence close under Oakhole hedge through Conholt down to Vernam Dean gate where a gospel was read; and from thence along by Boates to Kibleweeke gate and from thence over East fields in Conholt through Eastern meadows to Oateland coppice and so over Coome bottom to Bucklye corner by Tangly Ash field, and from thence along Tangly Ash field by the Berries on the outside of the parish to Hampshire yate [*gate*] where a gospel was read, and from thence along Tangly Weast fields under Oathanger to Chasoms, and through Chasoms to Tangly Dean yate and from thence along the way under Ashridge coppice to Ashridge well where a gospel was read, and so by the great oak at Hatch gate homeward to the church.

William Waterman , 80 years old; William Corderoy, 74; Thomas Cox, 70; Thomas Summersett alias Cooke, 60; John Westcott, William Summersett alias Cooke, John Woolston, Thomas Hapgood, Richard Hapgood, John Hapgood, Edward Hapgood, all more or less 60. *Not signatures.*

A note of the church rails:

East side: Sir John Phillpotts farm all the south side and a part of the east side to the style; 1 Thomas Summersett [*William Knight*] the style; 1 John Waterman [*Widow Griffin*]; 1 John Westcott; 2 Bacons farm; 1 Edward [*William*] Annatts; William Mercer whereof 1 too be maintained by John Poore and William Tanner; 2 Alexander [*William and Richard*] Wild; 3 Mr Lucies Lower farm: North side: 2 Eastcott farm; 6 Conholt farm; 3 the parsonage; 2 Gammon Corner; 1 the vicarage; 2 Thomas [*Henry*] Harvord.

West side: 2 Mr John [*Francis*] Corderoy; 1 Richard Hapgood; 2 Mr Davies [*Ed Hocking*]; 2 Hill house; 1 William Mylls; 1 Coale yardlands; 2 the Chantry; 1 John Hapgood; 1 the parish; 1 Richard Colins; 5-4 Dean farm and the wicket. *Undated but probably c 1640; the numbers are probably perches; names in italics are in a late 17th cent. hand.*

Collected in the parish of Chute the sum of 45s 3d towards the relief of Marlborough, 1653: Henry Jolly, minister, Alexander Wild (X), Edward Hapgood (X), William Collins, William Spratt (X). *Following the fire that caused much damage and distress.*

1670 the moneys that was gathered in the parish of Chute in the county of Wilts towards the redemption of those distressed captives amounting to the sum of £30,000, as is specified in his majesty's letters patent, together with the names of the contributors as follows:

John Foyle esq 10s; John Collins esq 5s; William Norborne esq 5s; Mr John Fisher 3s; Mr Thomas Earle 2s 6d; Mr Richard Earle 2s 6d; Mr Francis Corderoy 1s; Henry Jollie vicar 5s; John Westcott senior 6d; Robert Wescott 1s; Francis Earle 1s; Thomas Hall 1s; John Collins 1s; Thomas Piper junior 1s; William Knight 1s; Richard Hapgood 1s; Ms Katherine Fortescue 1s; Thomas Piper senior 6d; Richard Wild 6d; Mrs Mary Corderoy widow 6d; George Cooke 6d; Widow Westcott 6d; John Westcott junior 6d; William Wild 6d; William Spratt 6d; William Plowman 6d; Richard Cooke 6d; Robert Cooke

6d; Simon Noyse 6d; William Annatts 6d; John Piper senior 6d; William Collins 4d; Widow Griffin 4d; Henry Raymond 4d; John Piper junior 4d; John Poore 4d; Edward Blackman 6d; John Hapgood 4d; David Naile 2d. Total £2 12s 4d.

Servants: Richard Moss 6d; Mary Hampshire 6d; Thomas Knight 6d; William Bunce 6d; Richard Westcott 6d; Alice Hall 6d; William Gyatt 6d; William Dewey 6d; Lucie Jollie 6d; Elizabeth Knackstone 6d; William Baylie 6d; Robert Whitcheare 6d; Thomas Dewey 6d; Margaret Haskins 4d; Margery Herring 4d; Edward Dewey 4d; Anne Hapgood 4d; Mary Spratt 4d; Margery Goddard 3d; Alice Serle 3d. Total 8s 8d.

Gathered upon the same account 1680 £2 1d.

A particular of the clerk's wages: Deane farm 6s; Mr Norborne's farm 1s 4d; Standen farm 2s; Mr Fisher's farm 1s 5d; the parsonage 2s; Robert Westcott 1s 1d; Mrs Fortescue's living 1s 1d; Conholt farm 1s; Mrs Corderoy's living 6d; Hill house 6d; Richard Cooke of Cadley 6d; Edmond Annatts by the church 6d; John Collins' house by the Common 6d; Henry Harvord's house 6d; William Mills his house 6d; William Knight's house 8d; Widow Griffin's house 4d; George Cooke's house 4d; Manchester's house 4d; Widow Geales' house 4d; Widow Westcott's house 4d; John Cox junior's house 4d; John Piper's by the church 3d; John Cox senior 2d; Edward Dewey 2d; William Spratt's house 2d; William Plowman's on the Common 2d; Robert Simmes' on the common 2d; Widow Tybball's on the Common 2d; Thomas Dudman's on the Common 2d; Robert Clacie on the Common 2d; Andrew Fox on the Common 2d; Richard Hedges on the Common 2d; William Evans on the Common 2d; John Upton's on the Common 2d; John Dudman in the Bottom 2d; Joseph Hayes in the Bottom 2d; Gilbert Hayes in the Bottom 2d; Edward Annatts in the Bottom 2d; Peter Cooke on the Common 2d; John Piper at Standen 2d; John Poore at Standen 2d; William Hapgood at Standen 2d; Richard Wild at Cadley 2d; William Wild at Cadley 2d; John Poore Cadley 2d; Henry Raymond Cadley 2d; Simon Noys Cadley 2d; John Goslyn 2d; John Hunt Cadley 2d; Widow Hayes Cadley 2d; Edward Webb Cadley 2d; Widow Cooke Cadley 2d; William Collins Cadley 2d; Widow May at Hatchets 2d; Thomas Worram senior Hatchets 2d; Thomas Worram Hatchets 2d; Widow Hendee Hatchets 2d; Widow Pewsey Hatchets 2d; John Eldridge Cadley 2d; Richard Hapgood Shaw 4d; Gammons 1s; John Dudman Common 2d; David Naile Common 2d; Widow Naile Common 2d; Widow Plowman Common 2d; William Plowman Common 2d. *Undated probably c 1670.*

The present pulpit Cloath & cushion was given by Thomas Werg Esq, a worthy citizen of London. *Undated probably late 17th cent.*

General register, 1763-1787 (627/2)

Perambulation of Chute parish taken by me John Gilmore 3 May 1785, being Tuesday in Rogation, attended by many of the inhabitants, whose names are hereunto subscribed:

Began at the pond, near the garden in the possession of Revd John Gillmore,

so up the meadow by the Holy Tree, formerly an oak tree, through little willow coppice under Lammas Field hedge till we came to the crook in the edge of Lime Kiln Field, along by that till we came to the bushes on Lawn down, where a gospel was read; then on under Collingbourne wood to Procession Oak, by Mundy's grave, along Honey Bottom, keeping Collingbourne wood close on the left side, over Baulk's hill to Fair Oak Bottom, where a gospel was read; along the bottom to Shaw, from thence to Gale's Green and up Short lane to the south west corner of Shaw down, between the pit there and Cole's wood, a gospel was read; from along under Grub-ground hedge to Tomson's coppice, up Henpath lane to Shaw cross, where a gospel was read; from the cross along the middle of the cart road under Long Lease hedge to the back or north part of John North's house, so along the ditch to the south west side of Scots' & Poore's houses, where a gospel was read; from thence along the top of the ditch to Gosmore Down corner, so along the top on the south side of Hippenscombe Cleaves to the corner of Conholt down, then down the hill to the corner of the bottom adjoining to Hippenscombe and Fosbury lands, along the bottom to Vernham Dean gate, where a gospel was read; from thence up Conholt down to Kibbleweek gate on to Boats Down corner and along Sir Sidney Medow's Old down to Boat's Down east corner, so along to Sir Sidney's eleven acres to East field and to the Eastern meadows to Oatland coppice, and over Combe or well bottom to Bucklie corner adjoining Tangle Ash field & thence on the upperside of Well Bottom coppice by the Berries to Hampshire Gate, where a gospel was read; from thence on the south side of Sir Sidney [Medow's] Park pales by Chessums to Langley Dean gate, then up the middle of the high road to Cadley through old Webb's garden to the well in the street at Cadley and through Tom Knight's orchard to Lower house barn, through the middle thereof to a well in the yard and through Lower House orchard across a well near between Smith's and Coster's houses, through Coster's garden to the place where Hatchet gate formerly stood, where a gospel was read; thence up under Oram's, now Smith's hedge, over Whole Lands down to Jollys and from thence to the pond where we began.

David Hutchens, James Arnold, John Bennett, James Collins, James Bower, John Phillimore, John Bower, George Bennett, Thomas Arnold, James Nicholas, Charles Cook, Charles Hutchins, Robert Hutchins, Thomas Fowler, Henry Norris and others. *Not signatures.*

General register, 1787-1812 (627/3)

An account of the churchyard rails taken by me and the churchwardens on 27 Mar 1799 on purpose to ascertain to whom each perch belonged, and to compel such persons (as might refuse) to repair their particular portions, if wanted NB this account was taken up by us standing in the inside of the churchyard beginning at the west corner next to Mr Freeman's yard, commonly called the Manor yard, and going round north till we came to the same place:

West side; 1st perch that is that next to Mr Freeman's yard belongs to Dean farm, the wicket with the two posts belong to the parish; 1st, 2nd 3rd perches to the right of the wicket belong likewise to Dean farm, formerly 4 perches;

4th perch from the wicket, to the Cross Keys; 5th from the wicket, to the parish; 6th from the wicket, to Shaw farm; 7th & 8th from the wicket, to Dean farm, called Chantry rails; 9th from the wicket, to Mr Charles Earl of Collingbourne for Cobs; 10th from the wicket, to Widow Bower; 11th from the wicket, to Mr Foyle for the wheeler's shop & 4 small grounds; 12th from the wicket, to Lord Aylesbury for Hill House; 13th & 14th from the wicket, to Mr Freeman, commonly called Fanscut; 15th & 16th from the wicket, to lord Aylesbury for another part of Shaw.

North side going east; 1st perch to Mr Hayes for a house & fields called Sheephays etc; 2nd perch to Edward Hutchins for a house & Westcot meads; 3rd perch to the Vicarage house; 4th & 5th perches to David Hutchins for Gammon's Corner; 6th & 7th perches to the Rectory house; 8th – 14th perches to Sir William Meddows for Conholt.

East side going south; 1st- 4th perches belong likewise to Sir William Meddows for Conholt; 5th perch to Richard Wild for a house & meadow; 6th perch to Roger Hutchins for Cadley farm; 7th & 8th perches to Mr Pulse for Stannum Great house; 9th perch to Joseph Norris for a house & meadow, back of the vicarage; 10th & 11th perches to Thomas Jennings for Stannum farmhouse; 12th perch to Mr Knight for Griffins field; the wicket with the posts & the perch next to Mr Freeman's yard belong to the parish.

South side all the south side belongs to Mr Freeman for the manor etc.

Witnesses: Robert Greenwood, curate, Gilbert Hayes, John Mackrell, churchwarden.

CLYFFE PYPARD

General register, 1576-1683 (895/2)

Richard Hopkins, clerk, sworn as parish register before Gabriel Martyn, 10 Oct 1653.

William Newman sworn as parish register before William Blissett and Isaac Burgess, 3 May 1656.

Henry Burford vicar 1618-1633; Anthony Spackman curate 1636; signs the register for 1649; Richard Hopkins 1648, buried 21 Apr 1656; Henry Blake vicar 1659-1660.

General register, 1668-1776 (895/3)

Edward Goddard esq, impropriate rector and patron of Clyffe Pypard; born 1721; high sheriff of Wilts, 1767; ordained deacon 1 Oct 1769, priest, 14 Jan 1770; inducted in to the vicarage and church of Clyffe Pypard, 14 Jan 1770.

CODFORD ST MARY

General register, 1653-1723 (1439/1)

John Crouch of Codford St Mary sworn as parish register before Edward Michell, 5 Jun 1654.

12 May 1718 John Churchill of Corton paid £15 15s to the churchwardens of Codford St Mary for the use of the poor, which was held by bond with him and Leonard Bendall deceased of Sherrington, which bond is either lost or mislaid. Witnesses: Samuel Blundell, John Ingram, Christopher Ingram, George Withers, Jordan Sandres.

Thomas Edwards, a fellow of St John's College Oxford was presented by the president and scholars of that college to the rectory on 20 Jul 1663; and after institution real by the bishop was inducted into the rectory 15 Aug 1663; vacant by the death of Dr William Creed on 19 Jul 1663.

Baptisms and burials, 1783-1812 (1439/4)

1787 the bishop of the diocese confirmed at the parish church of Tisbury. The concourse of people assembled on the occasion exceeded 10,000 in number.

16 May 1788 William Bray was nominated clerk of this parish by appointment of Revd Dr [Thomas] Smythe rector, and public notice there given at the time of divine service by me Henry Williams curate.

Revd Dr [Thomas] Smythe died 23 Jan 1790, after having held the rectory for 50 years and was succeeded by Revd Joshua Winter, fellow of St John's College Oxford, upon the presentation of the president and scholars of that college.

John Douglas bishop of Salisbury held his primary visitation at Salisbury 14 Aug 1792.

16 Jun 1806: a copy of the instructions given to me by the Archdeacon of Sarum, at the parsonage, to be delivered to the churchwardens, Joshua Winter rector:

Wall of the church to be buttressed, piling to be put into compleat repair.

Ceiling of the church to be well examined and put into good order.

Earth to be removed from the walls of the church and chancel for two feet that the water may be carried away from the church; the ground walls examined and repaired, where wanting.

No persons to be buried within four feet of the church.

The fence around the churchyard to be put into compleat repair. Charles Daubeny archdeacon of Sarum.

CODFORD ST PETER

General register, 1597-1732 (1438/2)

John Pryor of Codford St Peter sworn as parish register before Edward Michell, 30 Jan 1654.

General register, 1783-1812 (1438/5)

New surplice made 1784. Charles Thomas Kellow, rector.

The dial plate to the church clock was put up at the expense of John Crouch, 29 Jun 1799, who served the office of churchwarden 29 years without intermission.

COLERNE

General register, 1713-1764 (1107/2)

Memo that quiet possession of the church and vicarage house was given to James Lewis by George Millard vicar of Box, 9 Mar 1721. Witnesses Walter Fisher, Thomas Hanham churchwardens, Charles Hamilton, Richard Knights inhabitants.

General register, 1792-1812 (1107/4)

Memo the vicarage house at Colerne, having fallen into a ruinous state, was thoroughly repaired and made an habitable residence for a clergyman in the year 1797. The charge of which was defrayed partly by the dilapidations received from the late incumbent Mr [Nathaniel Alsop] Bliss, partly by the then vicar, and partly by the sum of £254, being the liberal and voluntary donation for this purpose of the Revd Dr Gauntlet, rector of Colerne and patron of the vicarage. G[ilbert] H[eathcote], 9 Feb 1799. *Another note states that he resigned 1 Nov 1799 and was succeeded by John Wells.*

COLLINGBOURNE DUCIS

General register, 1653-1737 (665/1)

Mr Bartholemew Tooker was elected parish register, 19 Sep 1653; testified by Adoniram Byfield; sworn before William Blisset, 15 Oct 1653.

Incomplete copy of order at Quarter Sessions about rogues, vagabonds and sturdy beggars, Easter 1678.

Notes by William Sherwin, rector. See WAM 26 pp320-326

On Saturday 27 Nov 1703, about 2 am, there arose a terrible hurricane which did unspeakable damage all over England, but few places suffered more than the parsonage here. For there was one barn blown down, all the rest of the barns, outhouses, stables and ricks of corn were unthatched, the whole dwelling house uncovered, the lead upon the chancel shrivelled up like a 'scrowl' and the tower and body of the church much 'damnified'. The same time the bishop of Bath and Wells, Revd Richard Kidder and his wife were destroyed in the palace at Wells. But by the providence of God both man and beast escaped all manner of hurt in these parts.

27 Nov 1704 about this time I cast up what my charges had been in building a new barn and in the alterations of my house, and in repairing the greatest part of the damage occasioned by the storm, and the sum amounted to £140 at the lowest computation; the remaining part of my charge will, I suppose, come to near £30.

The burn or rivulet, which rises at Burbage and passes through Collingbourne

sometimes as far as Salisbury, did not run in the winter last past, the whole year having been very dry, 1 Apr 1705.

In January last past a terrier of the glebe and an account of what is tithable and what has any modus by prescription was delivered into the bishop's register at Sarum and signed by myself and the churchwardens and some of the principal inhabitants, 1705.

The burn or rivulet ceased running a short time before Whitsuntide 1854 and continued dried up until the end (Oct) 1855; the weather having been unusually dry during the whole of that period. Most of the wells in the parish and indeed throughout the country failed, causing great suffering to cattle especially. W[illiam] C[ollings] Lukis rector. *Later addition.*

I made a perambulation round my parish where we renewed the old bounds and set our landmarks according to the directions of some of the oldest inhabitants who were present. We observed that the bridge over the brook between Sunton Collingbourne and us stands within the limits of our parish but this only upon leave given and the inhabitants of Sunton are obliged to renew and repair the said bridge whenever it wants either repairing or renewing, 14 May 1706.

That on 16 Jul 1706 my wife was safely delivered of a lusty boy about noon, in her father's house at Chester, who was baptised there the next day following by the name of Thomas.

May 1709 at the beginning of this month the repairs to the chancel were finished and the workmen obliged by bond to keep it in repair so doing so long as I shall continue rector. The leads were new cast, new timber into the roof etc, for the whole and some small alterations in my house the workmen had near £30.

1714 From Michaelmas last past it has been an exceeding dry season, very little rain in these parts and by consequence no river during the whole winter.

23 Jan 1718 I was admitted as a canon of Chichester cathedral. From Ladyday 1718 to the Midsummer following I kept my residence at Chichester and the cure was supplied by Revd Mr Gwinn who resided here.

In the beginning of Nov 1719 having resided constantly here for almost 20 years I removed with my family to my residence at Chichester with the bishop of Sarum's approval, who appointed Mr Joseph Gilbert to be my curate.

I entered Eton College aged 11 under the patronage of John Rosewell, schoolmaster. Went to Magdalen College as half-border (semicomminarius) on the support (adjurante) of Henry Fairfax, later dean of Norwich in 1683. I was ejected from that college, 16 Jan 1688, when popery was in the ascendant. Entered Merton College by unanimous consent 31 Jun 1688. Rector of Collingbourne Ducis 11 Aug 1700. Married Katherine Head, daughter of Thomas Head of Chester 16 Apr 1704. Prebend of Seaforth in Chichester cathedral 1703.

1703 'Memo that the five last registered [*in Mar and May*] died of a feavour which it was very fatal in theis and the upper parish [*Colingbourne Kingston*] & more especially to such as were lett bloud in the time of sickness. 15 died in Colingbourne Kingston within ten weeks; the distemper probably caused by the late mild winter.

Robert Marshman died of the same distemper buried 6 Jun, the day the bishop preachd and confirmd; by experience it was found that a common medicine called Decochim Sacrum was of excellent use; few dying of the feavour who made use of that remedy.

Between 1702-1718 Sherwin recorded the deaths of several clerical colleagues and wrote brief eulogies or obituaries. The facts only are given here. For full transcript see WAM op cit

Robert Woodward Professor LL, rector of Pewsey, dean of Salisbury, advocate of the clergy, contracted a fever and died in London, died at the beginning of 1702 [13 Feb].

Henry Jacobs vicar of Collingbourne Kingston, caught a fever going about these villages and died 16 Mar 1703.

Master Edmund Spark, Cantab, rector of South Tidworth, died 9 May 1703. John Hersent BA fellow of New College, bursar of the university (Academiae Procurator), and in the legation of Lord Lockhart [*Probably Sir William Lockhart soldier and diplomat who worked in France in the 1670s*] into France, rector of Pewsey for 3 years, suffered from gout (podagra) and died 21 Dec 1705

John Torbuck MA fellow of St Johns College Oxford, rector of Ludgershall died 14 Apr 1707.

Master West rector of Boscombe, died 23 Dec 1707.

Master Hinton MA, once my pupil in Merton College, had the cure of souls in North Tidworth for 4 years, died of the pox (variolarum morbo), 11 Feb 1708.

Henry Russell rector of Penton Hants, was buried in the south west corner of the chancel, 14 Nov 1706; he was placed near his grandfather Henry Scudder and great grandfather Mr Hunt.

Charles Gifford MA, of Magdalen College Oxford, rector of Rushall, died 15 Sep 1708. Sherwin preached a sermon at the funeral.

Robert Reeke rector of Manningford Abbots, died of the fever 12 Oct 1708.

Master Crofts rector of South Clatford near Andover, Hants, died 22 Feb 1709

Master Haskins rector of Cholderton, died 9 Aug 1709.

Master Smith vicar of North Clatford, Hants died 9 May 1709, aged 80.

Susanna Gifford, widow of Charles Gifford (see above), by my nomination admitted to the Froxfield almshouses, died 19 May 1709. *Sherwin preached a sermon at the funeral.*

About the end of 1709 Mr Stone rector of Abbots Ann, Hants, died, aged 70; he was succeeded by John Lambert MA of Boyton, who was my pupil at Merton. The same John Lambert died of gout 31 Jan 1718.

Revd William Etwall, the worthy vicar of Chute, was buried there 11 Feb 1717.

General register, 1737-1812 (665/2)

28 Jul 1746 Upon the setting of the bounds of the rick bartons betwixt Dr Cheney, dean of Lincoln, and Thomas Talbot, rector of Collingbourne Ducis, the following homagers were present and will testify that the dean gave the rector some ground which by the stakes, at the abovementioned time put in, will show that the real boundary belongs to the dean and chapter of Lincoln estate, occupied by Robert Shepherd.

Timothy Fay, Roger Andrews, homagers; John Webb, Richard Miller.

COLLINGBOURNE KINGSTON

General register, 1653-1720 (666/1) *Note that the old register which began in 1650 was written up by Richard Guy vicar, who died 20 Jan. 1611.*

Richard Kinge, yeoman, sworn as parish register before William Blissett, 17 Dec 1653.

Upon a certificate of the inhabitants purporting that Richard King was dead, Thomas Fidler sworn as parish register; William Blissett, 22 Sep 1655.

4 Mar 1663 copy of licence to eat flesh during Lent for Susan, wife of Edward Barnabas gent of Collingbourne Kingston.

25 Mar 1662 Thomas Hunt, curate, entered the cure.

'On tuesday night October 21st 1662, there happened about the middest of the night a sodeine fearefull and lamentable fyerin the dwellinge house of Henry Seymore of Sunton gent aged as they sayd about 90 yeares of age in which said fyer the said Henry was burned in his bed, but some smale part of him being afterwards found was buried the fryday followinge beinge october 24th 1662. Thos Hunt cur[at]e].

Anne the wife of the said Henry Dyed on Sunday night November the fifteenth followinge and was buried on fryday night November 20th very privatly without bel, booke etc ita ut vixerunt sicut etc. *So as they lived so [they died]*' *The reason for this somewhat cryptic entry is unclear, but the couple seemed to have incurred the opprobrium of the curate.*

27 Dec 1677 This day it was agreed by the persons whose names are here subscribed that every man's place in the four new seats in the body of the church be after this order:

In the first seat before; Thomas Reeves of Sunton >T Earl<; John Vincent of Sunton >J Gale<; John Cully of Sunton >Mr T Jacob<; John Harding of Kingston; Mr Robert Foord of Kingston >Mrs Davis<; Mr John Norris of Brunton. In the second seat before; Robert Brown of Aughton >Thomas Brown<; John Bartholemew of Sunton >R Saunders<; Thomas Hillier of Sunton >E Chandler<; Edward Pike of Kingston; Edward Gale of Sunton >John Spencer of Kingston<; Edward Collyier of Kingston >Nicholas Blake of Brunton on account of parting with his seat behind the Reading pew T Hapgood<. In the first seat behind; Thomas Dean of Aughton >J Pocock<; John Fidler of Sunton; George Blanchard of Sunton; Thomas Brown of Sunton; Roger Wristbridge of Sunton >W Clark<. In the second seat behind; Thomas Field of Brunton; Thomas Hickman of Sunton; Richard >Thomas< Collins of Aughton; Peter Reeves of Sunton.

Henry Jacob, vicar, John Andrews (X), Thomas Reeves (X), John Cully (X), John Andrews (X), Thomas Head, Peter Reeves, Richard Collins (X), John Fidler (X), Thomas Brown (X), Robert Brown (X). *Names in > < added in the same hand as the 1723 note below.*

Stamford Wallace BA was inducted into the vicarage and church by William Sherwin MA rector of Collingbourne Ducis, 4 Sep 1703, in the presence of Thomas Thurman, Thomas Andrews

28 Jan 1723 Thomas Andrews testified that he was churchwarden in - when the new seat in the Middle aisle nearest the north door was erected the same by him was sold to Ann Chandler and Thomas Acres; it now belongs to John Blackmore, Henry Chandler and Thomas Ares, whose portion is the 4 middlemost seats. Thomas Hickman. S[tamford] Wallace vicar

The vicar, the gates; Thomas Hickman, the wicket; Mr Jones, 3; John Burley, 1; Thomas Pike, 1; Thomas Head, 1; Dr Vince, 3; Mr Norris, 2; Mr Blake, 1; John Wagland, 1; John Burley, 1; Thomas Head, Nicholas Blake, 1; Henry Norris for John Dean, 1, for Robert Bundy, 1; Robert Brown, 1; Ed Cully, 1; John Pocock, Richard Collins, 1; Thomas Rutter, 2; John Pocock, 1; John Brunsden, 1; Salathiel Dean, 1; Henry Norris, 2; Robert White, 1; Mr Pyle, 2; Zabulon Carter, Thomas Brown, Roger Wristbridg, 1; Ed Gale, Ed Reeves, 1; Peter Reeves, Francis Corderoy, Widow Ackers, 1; Mr Bingley, 7; John Piper, 2; Alexander Bartholemew, 2; Widow Parsons, Thomas Reeves, 1; Duke Andrewes, 1; Widow Hellier, 1; Ed Pike, 1; Mr Ford, Robert Jennings, 3; Simon Andrews, 1; John Gale for John Vincent's, 1; John Cully, George Blanchard, 1; Mr Earl, 2; John Gale for Richard Mason, 1; Widow Harding, Thomas Head, 1; George Webb, 1. *Untitled and undated, this is probably a late 17th century account of those responsible for maintaining the churchyard boundary with the numbers of perches.*

COMPTON BASSETT

General register, 1558-1753 (1722/1)

List of rectors 1564-1937 includes James Nesbitt, 1649 to his death at the end of 1652 and Michael Geddes, 1693-1711, neither of whom are in Phillipp's.

Note about a description to a plan of the churchyard surveyed by John Clements, Avebury, surveyor, 20 Mar 1775; exchange of land between James Pitcairn, rector and John Walker, lord of the manor; Walker has taken out 3 perches from the churchyard and given 6¼ perches. The above is a copy of the original on vellum in Mr Walker's possession, 28 Apr 1775.

Church plate: Tankard 2lb 3oz, chalice 11oz both the gift of R Maundrell 1700; large paten 9½ oz, small paten 4oz, both the gift of Gilbert Burnet, bishop of Salisbury. *Undated c 1775. Robert Maundrell senior was the donor of the first two items; see Nightingale.*

General register, 1681-1812 (1722/2)

In vestry received overseers' accounts: John Hill for 1687 expended and allowed £12 6s 6d; received by him on 3 rates at 1d per pound £12 6s 6d. Thomas Alexander overseer for 1687 expended for the parish and for return of the warrant £7 7s 11d; received by him on 2 rates £8 4s 4d; rest due for Thomas Alexander to the parish 4s 5d; due from him also for the return upon

the warrant horse hire 1s being allowed 2s. David Jenner, rector, Thomas White, Richard Hill, John Romin.

17 Apr 1688 for as much as Thomas White and John Rumin, churchwardens, could not in full vestry this day give their last year's accounts, they are therefore by vote of vestry continued as churchwardens for the year following and are to give unto the parish in vestry before or at Easter 1689 their full accounts; David Jenner, rector, Richard Hill, Thomas Alexander, John Alexander (X), William Prater (X), Robert Bond.

Chosen in vestry: Overseers for 1688; William Smith, Ann Styles widow. Constable for 1688; Thomas White. Tithingman for 1688, Edward Carpenter. Surveyors for 1688, William Goss, Edward Tucker.

David Jenner, rector, Thomas White, Thomas Alexander, Richard Hill, Robert Bond.

1688 the monthly account of Ann Styles widow, overseer of the poor, taken in vestry beginning 22 Apr 1688, ending 29 Apr 1688; paid to Lawrence Burchall (at 18d per week) 3s; to Daniel Breach 2s; Thomas Bright's two children 6s. Total 11s.

20 Apr 1688 There was a distress made on the goods and chattels of Jane Peacock, daughter of Jane Brockell, widow, for not burial in woollen. D[avid] Jenner rector, Thomas White churchwarden William Smith overseer.

Minister's fee of 3s 4d demanded for several burials in 1688.

COMPTON CHAMBERLAYNE

General register, 1538-1746 (487/1)

9 Dec 1693 Nathaniel Hancock was inducted into the vicarage by Augustine Hayter rector of Sutton Mandeville, in the presence of James Belbin curate of Barford St Martin, George Goodfellow, William Morgan churchwardens, Thomas Elkins, Jeremiah Northeast.

12 Feb 1707; the wainscot seat standing on the left hand of the entrance into the north aisle of the church was formerly used by my immediate predecessor, Mr John Martin, vicar, for the use of his family and since his decease the said seat has been maintained and repaired (at my charge) for the use of my family: The ground whereon the seat stands anciently of right belonging to the vicars of this parish successively. Nathaniel Hancock, vicar.

In 1699 the little seat, or reading pew, standing on the right hand of the entrance into the south aisle of the church was by me, Nathaniel Hancock, vicar, caused to be erected at my own charge for the use of Jeremiah Northeast, the present parish clerk, so long as he shall continue to do and perform the offices and service of a parish clerk there, and after him, the seat for ever to remain to the use of the next ensuing parish clerk successively and lawfully to be chosen from time to time if they and every of them respectively shall continue to do and perform the offices and services of parish clerk. Nathaniel Hancock, vicar, 22 Mar 1709.

COOMBE BISSETT

General register, 1636-1764 (539/1)

List of vicars on cover: Alexander Parry, 1636; Henry Beach, 5 Nov 1637; Charles Weldon 12 Nov 1668; John Hopkins [7 Mar 1683]; Samuel Jecock [19 Jul 1688]; Bazil Kennett [24 May 1705]; William Hodson [23 Oct] 1714. *Full dates of induction supplied from the dean's register from 1661 [D5/1/2]*

Note of the institution on 12 Nov 1668 [*probably of Charles Wheldon*] into the vicarage and his public assent of the 39 Articles, 15 Nov 1668. *Original in Latin with the first two lines struck through and illegible.*

'Philip Haiter bee gane to bee clarke Palm Sunday, April 12th 1685 and ended 24 Junse 1688'.

John Lippe churchwarden 1708 'the church whited ...

Richard Haiter is our clerk ... '. *Notes written on the cover of the register.*

Marriage register, 1754-1812 (539/2)

Country licence for duty on registry of burials, marriages, births and christenings for revd Joseph Gilbanks, issued by John Flower and William Salmon, 14 Sep 1784.

CORSHAM

General register, 1553-1653 (1157/1)

Memo about Swete's hole in Minety mead; 4 Aug 1606 there William Swete and - Bricker fought with swords concerning a woman and in the fray the former was slain and the latter acquitted. This hole is opened every year to perpetuate the memory thereof. *Minety Wood on modern Ordnance Survey maps.*

1637 Henry Pinchin and John Norwell, being churchwardens, received a letter from the chancellor concerning the placing of certain people in pews, upon receipt of which letter they built the new gallery wherein the organs stand and built new pews there in which pews they placed those whose names are here following who gave those several sums of money following to the only use of the parish church: Mrs Millicent Long widow, one wainscot pew for three persons to remain to her and her heirs for ever for which she gave £3 to the benefit of the church; same for Huddy Harris gent and the said Henry Pinchin for £2; to Thomas Hulbert of the gate a pew as before £3; to Lawrence Duck a seat in the same pew with Thomas Hulbert for 20s.

Memoranda about pews. After 1660 these are all approved and witnessed by the minister and churchwardens; their names are omitted from this edition.

1648 Edward Goddard and Edward Thrist gents, being then churchwardens, the said Edward Thrist did, at his own charge, build a new seat in the gallery, where the organs lately stood, in consideration whereof he has satisfied and paid for the room where the seat stands the sum of 10s, by the consent of

the churchwardens and the parishioners, the seat to remain to Edward and his heirs for ever.

1649 this bargain and sale from Samuel White of the city of London, gent, and Edward Michell of Corsham, clothier, of and for one room or seat for the said Edward Michell his heirs assigns and executors in the foremost seat in the gallery standing at the west end of the body of the aisle of the church of Corsham was recorded; for confirmation whereof the minister and churchwardens for the time being have hereto subscribed.

1649 the churchwardens [*as above*] have sold unto Thomas Wastfield of Corsham one seat in the gallery, where the organs stood, being the foremost seat, for 25s.

John Woodman defunct, late of Corsham, left by his will to John Hales of Westrop, Corsham, for ever, one pew lately built and standing in the belfry . Edward Dyer, Thomas Kington, Lawrence Pinchin. *Undated c 1650.*

1651 Thomas Hulbert sold unto Edward Longe of Corsham one seat in the little gallery where the organs stood. Edward Dyer, vicar, Edward Michell, Lawrence Pinchin, churchwardens.

1652 Edward Michell and Richard Sertayne, churchwardens, have erected a new pew in the lower end of the church wherein are fewer seats or places for women; which seats they placed persons following; the first seat at the entering of the door to remain to William Snellinge for ever, for which he gave 11s; the next seat for Edward Michell; the third seat for Samuel Michell; the fourth for Thomas Sertayne, which last three seats 31s was paid. Edward Michell, Richard Sarten, churchwardens for 1652; William Burchall, churchwarden for 1653.

1664 be it remembered that there is an extraordinary void of two seats betwixt William Eyre esq and William Wastfield; Wastfield to have the place before belonging to his Jeffery's tenement, Eyre to have the seat which anciently belonged to Wastfield's landhold at Pickwick.

27 Mar 1667 Thomas Davies has sold to Sarah White of the Moor, widow, his right in a woman's seat in the church belonging to his house at Pickwick, which seat stands upper most in that rank under Mr Eyre's gallery and is the innermost of that pew and adjoins to the above mentioned Jeffreys' pew.

1679 agreement between John Hale of Westrop, Corsham, yeoman and Walter Somner of Corsham whereby Somner has repaired the old pew joining to the chancel, which Hale uses, and Hale reserves the first seat in the pew at the entering of the door for Somner.

26 Sep 1707 memo that Phillip West, Corsham, rough mason and John Somner, same, barber, have sold to John Kington of Jaggards the seats adjoining Kington's seat, which are now together and formed into one long wainscot pew lined with green baize; the pew is over and opposite the pulpit. *Copied on the back cover of the register. It was also copied into a later register [1157/4] because of the fear that it might be lost.*

30 Jul 1655 Edward Dyer was inducted into the vicarage and church of Corsham by Edward Michell and Richard Sarten, churchwardens; John Moxam (X), John Woodman, Abraham Humphery (X)

General register, 1653-1679 (1157/2)

Richard Weare, chosen as parish register, was approved and sworn on the same day before William Eyre, 29 Sep 1653.

John Hayward chosen register of Corsham by me allowed and confirmed, 17 Jun 1655, William Eyre.

Thomas Nott, parish clerk, has had the register in his keeping ever since 16 Apr 1662.

‘1662 I Thomas Nott took these names following as they were registered in John Woodman the clarke’s papers back in the year 1661.’

General register, 1691-1714 (1157/4)

By me Thomas Nott clerk of Corsham . *Written at the start of the register*

Thomas Hilman, parish clerk of Corsham in the room of Thomas Wilcox, 14 Jul 1719.

1710 memo that the pillars and gates at the entrance of the churchyard and the gates entering the church porch were erected at the charge of the parish. Thomas Hulbert of Easton and Thomas Howse, churchwardens.

Clerk’s fees paid by the churchwardens: 4 nobles a year, £1 6s 8d; for washing the surplice 8s; < for leathering the bells 5s;>for cleansing the leads 2s; for writing out the register 4s; for oil for the bells 1s. Total £2 2s <6s> 8d. Agreed 27 Mar 1733 for washing the surplice extraordinary 2s pa.

A series of memoranda about pews in the church; the names of the vicar and churchwardens who approved them have been omitted. They have been placed here in chronological order. The series has 12 memoranda for the years 1812-1832, which are not included here.

6 Apr 1708 the seat belonging to Mr John Goddard esq of Hartham, being the corner seat in the middle aisle next Mr John Kington’s of Jaggards, over against the pulpit, was enlarged at his charge.

1 Dec 1709 the seat in the west end of the south aisle between the seats of Mr Jonathan Deeke and Mr Thomas Handcock was repaired at the charge of Mr William Wastfield junior, Chandler.

8 Mar 1711 the seat at the north west corner of the south aisle was built at the charge of Thomas Howse in 1709.

10 Mar 1711 the oaken wainscott seat at the east end of the north aisle adjoining the aisle of Sir John Hannum was erected by Thomas Hulbert gent in 1709; the seat belongs to his mansion house at Easton.

12 Mar 1711 an exchange between Joseph Simkins, Calne, shopkeeper, Joseph Sargent, Calne, woollen draper, William Jefferies, Corsham, maltster and Mary, his wife, on the one part, and William Wastfield, gent, of Pickwick, of a part of the pew on the west side of the pulpit under the gallery of Sir

William Hannam, for the same quantity of room in a newly built pew of William Westfield adjoining the consistory of the church.

12 Sep 1711 an oaken wainscott seat adjoining to the upper pillar in the north aisle next before the seat of Thomas Howse, was purchased of Elizabeth Elmes spinster by James Peirce, clothier, and was new erected by Peirce at his own charge.

12 Sep 1711 the second seat in the north aisle at the left hand from the north door was repaired at the charge of Walter Westfield, clothier, being a proper seat allocated to his house at Hills Green.

12 Sep 1711 the fourth seat in the north aisle on the left hand from the north door as repaired at the charge of Thomas Horne esq of Pickwick.

4 May 1719 a new erected deal wainscot seat in the middle aisle, the seat of Mr Thomas Gilbert on west, Mr William Guy on east, Mr James Pierce on south, was built at the charge of Mr William Stump junior.

5 May 1719 a new deal wainscot seat in the west end of the middle aisle adjoining the seat of John Sartain and Henry Hayward was built at the charge of Mr Edward Mitchell.

11 May 1719 a new deal wainscot seat in the west end of the north aisle adjoining the seat of Edward Mitchell, formerly largely a void place, was erected at the charge of John Sartain and Henry Hayward with the consent of Thomas Sartain of Holt, who has room there.

4 Jun 1724 the third seat of part of the north aisle behind the pulpit adjoining the vicar's seat, belongs to Mr Lawrence Kington and Mr Thomas Howse.

4 Jun 1724 a deal wainscot seat newly erected at the charge of Mr Mountjoy, Mr Howse and John Davies, being the second seat on the left hand of the middle aisle adjoining, belongs to those men.

28 Apr 1730 a deal corner seat at the left hand of the first aisle within the south door adjoining the pillar next the font was rebuilt at the charge of Henry Brett and belongs to the estate at Gastard, formerly Robert Moxham's.

16 Mar 1733 the seat on the south side of the middle aisle, opposite Mr Anthony Guy's new built seat, a pillar being on the south side, was augmented with all the part made of deal by Mr Richard Cozens. This pew was purchased by Mr Henry Freme of Miss Elizabeth Gauntlett 2 Nov 1807.

12 Apr 1737 a new deal seat in the middle aisle adjoining Mr Anthony Guy's on the west part, was rebuilt at the expense of Richard Fowell, vicar. At the same time an exchange was made between Thomas Hulbert gent of Easton and the vicar for one seat room there for as much room in the seat next to the consistory. A new deal seat adjoining the west side of the font was built at the expense of Mr John Rogers. A new deal seat in the north aisle adjoining on the west part to Mr William Hulbert's of Westrop, was built at the expense of Mr William Westfield, chandler. An exchange was made between Mr Robert Neale and Mr Samuel Rogers for one seat room, which the latter had in the new seat built by the former, for the like quantity of room in a seat near the vicarage seat, formerly belonging to Mr Neale's estate at Thingley.

20 Apr 1720 the seat adjoining the first pillar on the right hand of the west door was repaired at the expense of Mr Jonathan Rogers.

18 Sep 1738 the seat next to Mrs Hancock's of Westrop, being the furthest seat butting on the west end of the church from the south door was, rebuilt

and repaired by William Westfield, chandler, and was given by his son to Mr John Chanter, clothier.

17 Apr 1740 the third part of the third and fourth seats from the cross alley toward the west being opposite to a new deal seat belonging to Richard Fowell, vicar, already registered, and two seat rooms in a seat adjoining to the west side of the Chantry seat, and all that new pew adjoining to a pew of Mr William Westfield, late of Pickwick, being north of the said pew, the door opening into the cross aisle, were repaired by and belong to John Kington esq of Jaggards.

21 Apr 1740 the new deal pew, adjoining to a new deal pew of John Kington esq northward, was repaired at the expense of John Ellis. The further pew in the middle aisle was rebuilt at the expense of William Westfield, chandler, Thomas Bayly of Pickwick, victualler, and Isaac Kingston, victualler; in which pew Betty Chanter, widow, Westfield and Kingston had seat room before. The seat against the middle pillar of the north aisle adjoining Mr Fowell's seat was rebuilt by Robert Hulbert.

22 Apr 1740 a seat room in a pew adjoining the west part of Mr Neale's pew was purchased of John Woodman by William Guy junior.

30 Apr 1740 the third pew westward from the south door was repaired at the expense of Thomas Davies, butcher.

10 May 1740 the seat in the north aisle, on the south side of the ally in the said aisle, under the stairs going up Sir William Hanham's gallery, Mary Wilcox's seat on the south, a pillar on the east, was repaired at the expense of Richard Cozens.

3 Jul 1740 the seat and floor of the fifth seat from the south door on the south side of the alley opposite the stairs of the singers' gallery was repaired by Richard Cozens, butcher.

28 Mar 1741 the corner seat on the right hand at the north door, Mr Stephan's seat being on the north side of it, was repaired at the expense of Daniel Sidnall. Mr John Manley purchased this seat of Mr Daniel Sidnell, 1 Jan 1801. It was purchased of the executors' of John Manley by Samuel Hawkins and annexed to his house at Westrop, 4 Apr 1827.

5 Jun 1745 exchange between John Kington of Jaggards and John Hancock of Lypiatt gents; Kington gives his seat in the Parish gallery; Hancock gives the newly erected seat, being the fourth pew from the cross alley in the nave opposite the new erected pew of Mr Fowell, vicar.

11 Jun 1752 Anthony Webb registered his seat adjoining the pulpit which he bought of Mr Samuel Twyford for 1 guinea. Half of the seat was purchased by James Helps of Amy Biggs widow, 14 Jun 1802.

11 Jun 1752 Thomas Baily of Pickwick registered his seat, lately rebuilt at his expense, near the pulpit adjoining the seat of Anthony Webb.

30 Jun 1769 William Mitchell, clothier, registered his seat, lately built at his expense, being the second seat in the front of the Parish gallery northward, Mr James Davies, clothier on south.

7 Apr 1776 the large new deal wainscot seat painted mahogany colour, built over the vault of Paul Methuen esq at the east end of the south aisle on the right hand leading to the vestry was built at the expense of William Stump esq.

4 Feb 1780 the wainscot seat in the upper side of the north aisle adjoining to

Sir William Hannam's aisle, belonging to Lucy Hulbert and E Hulbert, was disposed of by them to their uncle, John Hulbert.

24 Sep 1780 the deal seat where the font lately stood, in the south aisle, was built at the expense of William Dalmer. 20 Apr 1801 this pew, described as adjoining a pew belonging to Mr Samuel Mountjoy, was sold by William Dalmer to Mr John Earle and is registered annexed to the house in Corsham street, purchased by Earle from Dalmer

ND ?1780 The pew in the upper end of the south aisle on the right hand side, containing room for four persons, is the property of Charles Bennet, supervisor of Pickwick, (by purchase of Thomas Kington) and annexed to his house at Pickwick, near The Spread Eagle.

8 Jul 1783 the deal seat at the west end of the south aisle adjoining the seat of late Mr Neale on the east, Mr Guy's on the north, and Mr Pearse on the west side, purchased on 14 Nov 1780 by James Cox, baker, of John Osborn, is annexed to Mr Cox's house at the south end of Corsham town, on the west side of the street.

7 Aug 1786 a deal wainscot seat on the east end corner of the north aisle adjoining to a seat partly belonging to Revd Lier on the west, which seat was disposed this day by Anthony Hulbert to Samuel Porter and is registered annexed to on the west side of High street, Corsham, occupied by Porter.

14 Dec 1795 Paul Cobb Methuen esq has purchased of Jane Lewis spinster a whole pew on the south side of the north aisle on the east end adjoining the late Sir William Hannam's aisle, being a pew standing by itself, sometime purchased by the said Jane and her sister Sarah Lewis, of the late Willim Hedges shoemaker.

6 Aug 1796 Charles Harford gent has purchased of James Davies a whole pew on the north side of the north aisle, being the third pew on the east end adjoining the pew of Mrs Duckett of Hartham house.

25 Oct 1797 Mr William Trinder has purchased of Mr Charles Arnold a whole pew, excepting one sitting, next the door, being the fourth pew from the south door on the south side of the south aisle, and annexed it to his house. The sitting in the pew was sold to William Trinder by Elizabeth Little, 1 Feb 1804.

27 Mar 1804 Mr William Davies has purchased from Miss Mary Dalmer the first pew on the left hand as you enter the south door. This pew was sold by Davies to Mr Benjamin Bromley, 17 Oct 1805.

13 Jan 1806 Mr George Turner has purchased of Mrs Elizabeth May the second pew on the right hand from the west door.

General register, 1713-1761 (1157/5)

Two burial records relating to suspicious deaths in Corsham around 1730 are worthy of inclusion because autopsies took place in the church. Anne, wife of James Best, died 19 and buried 21 Jan 1727 was 'cut open in the church supposed for murder'. Millicent Burbidge, died 4 and buried 8 Oct 1730 was 'poisoned and cut up for a child in the church'.

23 Oct 1713 Latimer Crosse was instituted into the vicarage.

19 May 1719 Latimer Crosse vicar of Corsham was instituted in Whitsun week into the vicarage of Kintbury, Berkshire.

Notice of sequestration on Latimer Crosse last incumbent of Corsham by Richard Loggan, the bishop's chancellor, 20 May 1720.

Thomas Hibberd chosen parish clerk in the room of Thomas Wilcox deceased and notice of the said choice was given in the parish church of Corsham in the time of divine service Sunday 2 Aug 1719, on the direction of the 91 Canon by me Latimer Crosse. Confirmed by Rev John Talman surrogate of Chancellor [*Richard*] Loggan 19 Nov 1719. Hibberd took the oath of office and oath of submission of obedience to the minister.

'Here endeth the register of the parish of Corsham during the whole time of the ministry of Mr Latimer Crosse vicar, all written with his own hand & it contains nothing but what is true & nothing is omitted that ought to be inserted to the best of the said Mr Crosse his knowledge; but if there is any mistakes or omissions, as perhaps there may be by the oversight of the late clerk TW. [*See previous note*]. Veniam petimusque damus vicissim [*More in sorrow than in anger, Horace, About the Art of Poetry 1 11*]. Latimer Crosse December 7th 1719. Sit Deo Gloria Amen.' [*Glory to God*]

'Here beginneth the register of the parish of Corsham during the ministry of John Straight MA, fellow of St Mary Magdalen college Oxford, who was instituted to the vicarage November 12th 1719 & inducted December 6th 1719.'

Edward May chosen parish clerk in the room of Thomas Hibbard as has resigned his place and notice of the said choice was given in the parish church of Corsham in the time of divine service, 22 Oct 1752, on the direction of the 91 Canon, by me William Pryer vicar.

General register, 1795-1812 (1157/8)

The yew tree was planted in the south churchyard by Mr Benjamin Young churchwarden 27 Mar 1796.

CORSLEY

General register, 1686-1756 (1179/2) *A gathering of two books*

Orange Cary son of Thomas Cary and Mary his wife, born 2 Jun baptised 14 Jun 1705. 'His father named him Orange in memory of Good King William whom God made A Glorious instrewnent to deliver these Nations from Popery & Slavery an to Set our Gracious Soverain Queen Anne on the throne Whom God bless preserve and prospar Amen'

CRICKLADE ST MARY

General registers, 1683-1796, 1797-1812 (1189/3,4)

John Skillin clerk of this parish 1728.

The officiating minister of the parish is entitled to 2d for every corpse buried in the churchyard.

17 Apr 1710 received then of Christopher Saunders the sum of 5s 6d for 33 burials in Cricklade St Mary's churchyard due to the vicar of Cricklade St Sampson and received by me Ed[ward] Cuthbert.

3 May 1718 received then of John Lane the sum of 7s 6d for 45 burials in Cricklade St Mary's churchyard due to the vicar of Cricklade St Sampson and received by me Ed[ward] Cuthbert.

18 May 1733 received then of Mr Coxe the sum of 16s for 96 burials in Cricklade St Mary's churchyard due to the vicar of Cricklade St Sampson and received by me Ed[ward] Cuthbert.

4 Sep 1742 received then of William Kemble the sum of 3s for 18 burials in Cricklade St Mary's churchyard due to the vicar of Cricklade St Sampson and received by me Joseph Cuthbert.

1 Jun 1745 received then of Thomas Lockey the sum of 18d for 9 burials in Cricklade St Mary's churchyard due to the vicar of Cricklade St Sampson and received by me Robert Page.

12 Dec 1803 received of Mr William Cuss the sum of 11s 4d for 68 burials in the church and churchyard of Cricklade St Mary up to this day R[ichard] Purdy vicar of Cricklade St Sampson.

31 Dec 1806 received of Mr J Slater the sum of 1s 10d for 11 burials in the church and churchyard of Cricklade St Mary up to this day R[ichard] Purdy vicar of Cricklade St Sampson.

CRICKLADE ST SAMPSON

General register, 1672-1776 (1189/14)

John Skillin clerk of this parish 1728.

10 Aug 1742 record of the subscription to the articles of faith by Rev John Tamberlain vicar; John Williams, churchwarden, Thomas Strange, John Skillin.

DAMERHAM *Transferred to Hampshire in 1895.*

General register, 1783-1812 (HRO 96M71/PR3)

Bishop's visitation and confirmation holden 15 Aug 1798.

James Green was chosen clerk, 1802.

DAUNTSEY

General register, 1653-1686 (1070/2)

A transcript of the registers which dated from 1653 was made in 1770 by William Harding, schoolmaster [1070/1]

Robert Camerie, an inhabitant of Dauntsey, sworn as parish register before William Shute, 25 Feb 1654.

Memo that this order of sessions was publically read in the parish church of Dauntsey, 28 Jul 1678. William Clement rector. *Probably a reference to the order against rogues, vagabonds and sturdy beggars issued at the Quarter Sessions Easter 1678. See index.*

General register, 1678-1752 (1070/3) *Medieval ms as cover*

John Skuse began his office of being clerk 14 Dec 1714.

This tower was begun to be built, Apr 21 1630; also this church repaired enlarged and the whole work fully ended, 17 Sep 1632; this was writ in large letters in the ring that is over the arch that do go out of the church into the tower. Taken thence by me John Skuse, parish clerk. *Note made after 1714 [see previous note].*

General register, 1694-1731 (1070/4)

John Stump, rector of Foxley and curate at Dauntsey to William Clement, archdeacon of Bath, who came hither 9 Apr 1694; Revd Mr [William] Clement, also a canon of Wells, died at Wells 11 Dec 1711, having been 37 or 38 years rector here, in about his 67th year.

Sarah daughter of John Bishop buried 24 Jan 1724, aged 16 or 17 'a very godly maid much addicted to reading ... pray father said she let us goe home meaning to heaven' *Such preparedness for death and the comfort of heaven was noted as a worthy example to others.*

DEVIZES ST JOHN

General register, 1653-1705 (1597/2)

Walter Clarke >John Notley< of Devizes St John, sworn as parish register before John Taylor, mayor, 29 Sep 1653.

Thomas Clarke of Devizes St John, sworn as parish register before John Tilton, mayor, 7 Oct 1656.

'Richard Clerke his hand and pen this book my name shall ever
Have when I am dead and in my grave and greedy worms
My body eat then you may read my name compleat
When I am dead and buried you have me forgotten when
This you see remember me when I am dead and rotten
Lord give me wisdom to direct my wayes
I desire not riches or length of dayes.'

Written by Richard Clerk [*early 18th Cent; see pp xvi-xvii*]:

'Why should we boast of Arthur and his knights
Knowing how many men have performed fights
or why should we speake of Sir lancelot du lake
or Sir tristram du leon who fought for lady sake
Read ould stories and you shall plainly see

How St george St george he made the dragon flee
 St george wass
 To speak of the Monarchs it were too long to tell
 And likewise of the romans how far they did exel
 Hannibal and scipio they many a fild did fight
 orlandoruse he wase a valiant knight
 Romulus and remus were those that rome did build
 But St george St george the dragon he hath killd
 St george
 Jephtha and gideon they led their men to fight
 The gibbonits and Amonites they put them to flight
 Hercules valour wase in the vale of basse
 And Sampson slew a thousand with the jaw bone of an Asse
 And when he was blind pulld the temple to the ground
 But St george St george the dragon did confound
 St george etc
 Valentine and orson they came of pepins blood
 Alfred and Aldricus they were brave knights and good
 The four sons of Ammon that fought with charlimain
 Sir hugh de burdeaux and godfreyde bullaiyne
 these were all French knights the pagans did convert
 But St george St george pulld out the dragons hart
 St george
 Henery the fifth he conquered all france
 He quartered their Armies his Honour to Advauce
 He raced their walls and pulld their cities down
 and he garnishd his head with a duble triple crown
 He thumped the French and after home he came
 But St george St george he made the dragon tame
 St george he
 St david you know loves leeks and toasted chese
 and iasan wase the man brought home the golden fleece
 and Patrick you know he wase St george boy
 Seven years he kept his horse then stole him away
 For which knavish Act a slave he doth remain
 But St george St george the dragon he hath slain
 St george
 Tamberlain the emperour in iron cage did Crown
 With his bloody flag displayd before the town
 Scanderbeg magnanimous Mahomets bushaw did dread
 Whos victorious bones were worn when he was dead
 His beglerbeys his corn like Dregs geo castriot he was tilld
 But St george St george the dragon he hath mald
 St george
 Ottoman the tarter he came of Persia Race
 the great Mogul with his chest so full of cloves and Mace
 the Grecian youth bucephalus he madly did bestride
 But these with their worthies nine St george did them deride

Gustavus Adolphus was swadlands warlik king
 But St george St george pulld forth the dragon sting
 St georg
 Pendragon and cadwalladr of british blood do boast
 Though John of Gaunt his foes did daunt St george shall rule the roast
 Agamemnon and cleomedon and Macedon did beats
 But compar'd to our champion they are but meerly cheats
 Brave Malta Knights in Turkish fights their brandish swords out drew
 But St george met the dragon and ran him through and through
 St george was
 Bidia the Amazon portus overthrw
 As ferce as any vandol goth Sarazen or Jew
 The potent holofernes as he lay on his bed
 in came wise Judith and subtly stole his head
 brave Cyclops stout with Jove he fought although he showerd down thundr
 But St george killd the dragon and is not that a wonder
 St george was

This verse is squeezed without line breaks into a margin.

mark Anthony ile warent you played his part with egyptys queen
 sir eglemore that valant knight the like wass never seen
 grim gargon might wass known in fight and leves most men frightd
 the myrmoidens and prester johns why wase not these men knighted
 brave spinola took breadsh nasaw did revert
 but St george meet the dragon and turnd him over over.'

General register, 1705 -1738 (1597/3)

>'1704 Deu from John Clarke where he was married 1s; 1708 due for clerk's wages ?8 years 1s 4d; paid to dork' [?'Dorcias] M...d... her for John Clarke 7s; what father ?left upon will is not paid when John Clarke was asked 1s; Deu upon account 12s 6d.' < John Clarke married Sarah Seager on 26 Dec 1704 in Devizes St Mary.

'11 october 1712 I resd of John Clarke 4s.'

'Richard Clarke his name and
 England is his nation
 devizes is his dwelling place
 <And heaven> I hope will be
 his habetation 1713'

'Behold and have regard the servants of the lord
 who in his house night do each praise him one accord
 Lift up your hands on high unto his holy place
 And give the lord his praises due his benefit embrace
 For why the lord our God who heaven and earth did frame
 Doth Sian bless him well.'

DEVIZES ST MARY**General register, 1569-1659 (1656/1)**

Memo of the affirmation of the established doctrine by John Davis, rector, 2 Jun 1602. Witnesses: Mr Thomas Grub, Mr William Edward, Mr Thomas Clarke, curate.

Robert Butcher of Devizes St Mary, sworn as parish register before John Taylor, mayor, 30 Sep 1653.

General register, 1659-1713 (1656/2)

James Dyer rector inducted 24 Nov 1681.

Richard Clarke his book 1711. *Son of the clerk, see pp xv-xvii.*

General register, 1712-1732 (1656/3)

St John; monthly accounts from Jun 1734- Jun 1735 for washing the surplice 1s and buying bread for the communion 2d; 18 Nov 1734 for washing the surplice and table linen, 3s 6d. *This was a duty of the parish clerk, Thomas Clarke, who held the office for both parishes, used the registers indiscriminately. 'Thomas Clarke, clerke 1732' is written on the cover of the following register (1656/4).*

Notation for change ringing five bells, mid-18th Cent.

DILTON**General register, 1585-1676 (1427/64)**

Be this registered and recorded for the information of all those who in after times it may concern for ever. That the churchyard belonging to the chapel of Dilton for the ease and help of the inhabitants there, who did formerly to their great trouble and charge bury their dead at Westbury, was consecrated and set apart to be a place for those inhabitants belonging to the said chapel to bury their dead in, by the right reverend father in God John Davenant, bishop of Sarum in and on the feast of St Bartholemew, being the four and twentieth of August in the year of our Lord one thousand six hundred and thirty one; Doctor Henchman being chantor who then preached the consecration sermon, Mr Andrew Greeves being vicar, Mr William Jackson, curate and lecturer at Dilton and Westbury, Mr Thomas Benett, parson, Mr Anthony Selfe, farmer, William Peirce and Richard Bailly being churchwardens and Robert Mintie, clerk. *Henry Henchman was chantor or precentor of Salisbury cathedral under whose peculiar jurisdiction Westbury and Dilton fell.*

Gryffen Lewis minister 1 Oct 1600. *On title page.*

Robert Whitley MA, accepted the cure of souls of Dilton under master William Thomson, vicar, 23 Apr 1621. Gervaise Bland, curate, 21 Dec 1634. John Bradish, vicar, 25 Mar 1645.

General registers, 1677-1763(1427/66-67)

Christopher Wise, parish clerk, 1677. Thomas King vicar.

John Burges chosen clerk, 27 Aug 1737.

General register, 1763-1812 (1427/68)

A terrible sickly year was 1767. It was vast trouble & hard duty for me to ride to Dilton 1767 to bury 110 persons & no curate not no help as witness my hand Thomas Hewitt vicar. *Most deaths were due to smallpox. Hewitt was vicar of Westbury also.*

Numbers of christenings in 1775; there was but 8, but the chapel was four months of this year under repair & no service performed there.

A selection from the informative burial records; for more see WFHS transcript.

George Grant of the Black Dog buried 5 Dec 1769, close in the corner of the chapel by the singing gallery stairs to the north corner; he did not choose to lie in the chapel yard with his father George Grant senior; so his widow Hannah grant paid me 6s 8d by the hands of William Whitley of Chapmanslade, being first of the family buried in the chapel.

Joseph son of James Tucker, schoolmaster at Westbury and Mary his wife buried Sep 18 1776; the child buried was unknown to me without my leave or knowledge; his grandfather Isaac Tucker and his grandmother Elizabeth Tucker I buried in Westbury churchyard and all the family of the Tuckers lie in Westbury churchyard; but because his father Robert Tucker married a Lanfear of Dilton's Marsh, they all want to be buried with Lanfears. This is to please his mother; it is the second child he has buried at Dilton, and thus the Dilton chapel yard now by an increase of burials from the liberties of the mother church is so crowded with corpses that some bodies are dug up with their hair upon their skulls which is a shock to human nature and now some want the vicar's house at Dilton, which the churchwardens made me rebuild anew in the year 1753, pulled down again and the orchard and garden thrown in Dilton chapel yard; a pretty proposal indeed. So the vicars must lose their property, enlarge their chapel yard and ride all manner of weather to Dilton to bury the dead which ought to be buried at Westbury church. But I am determined they shall never lay the vicar's orchard to the chapel yard, neither shall they carry so many of the dead to Dilton without my leave as they have done.

William son of Mr James Axford, glover in Leigh who came from Salisbury St Thomas Ladyday [25 Mar] past is not one who was born or lived in this parish before but a stranger and Mrs Mary Axford his wife, she was a daughter of Mrs Ann Eyre's of the Anchor in Leigh and they were married at Westbury 5 Oct 1775; and she went to live with her husband at Salisbury and they claimed a right to bury their son William Axford with the Eyre's at Dilton in the chapel yard, which I denied Mrs Axford and would have buried his son William in Westbury churchyard for nothing as the child died within the liberties of the mother church, so I received of Mrs James Axford 6s 8d by leave of James

Gunstone, sexton of Dilton, for leave to break up the ground to bury this their unbaptised child in Dilton chapel yard, who was buried 13 Aug 1777.

1778 James Gunstone, clerk, without my knowledge, goes and helps the Mason to dig graves 8ft deep and 6 or 8ft wide under the eaves of the vicarage house of Dilton for a brick grave for Mr Thomas Woodyear and removed my tenant Andrew Bull's child and several others and got out of the chapel yard on my land and dug up stones under the foundation of my house and all without leave. I had a great mind to have brought an action against them or filled the grave up again or made Mr Richard Woodyear have paid 6s 8d for taking up so much ground that did not belong to the family; this is the first brick grave that had been made in the chapel yard in my time by Dilton inhabitants or any other and I will prevent any other such grave being made without leave and pay.

Banns register, 1754-1788 (1427/71)

Memo having given an account in Westbury register of all the fees due to the vicar of Westbury for marriages, askings, churchings & burials & having given in that register an account of the number of 6s 8d paid me by the friends of the deceased & the names of the deceased for whom the money was as you may see the register paid & how many of them & no more room being left in that register to enter strangers for Dilton chapelry, have thought proper to enter those that have paid me since, in this banns register:

3 Oct 1761 buried at Dilton one [-] Withy a woman from the Row who died in Upton Scudamore parish & was buried in the chapelyard of Dilton, paid me by the hands of John Burgis clerk 6s 8d, but being very poor returned her friends back 4s 8d, but kept 2s of the money as witness my hand Thomas Hewitt vicar.

Charles Hunt, the twister, who was a parishioner of Westbury & now was maintained at the time of his death out of the poor rates of Westbury parish, died at Chapmanslade in Corsley parish & was buried in Dilton chapelyard Sunday 13 Apr 1766 & was paid by his widow & friends 6s 8d, but she being old & poor returned her back 3s 4d & kept the other 3s 4d as witness my hand Thomas Hewitt vicar. *Hunt's designation was an honourable occupation in the woollen industry, not an indication of dishonesty.*

See for the rest of the burial fees in Dilton register amongst the burial of the dead.

DINTON

General register, 1558-1654 (1211/1)

No man is able to stand against me
I will stand by that and fall by it
that nobody besides Christopher
Polhill is able to have one turn at
boxing with me or anybody else.

Written in an 18th century hand between the entries for 1607 and 1608. Edward

son of Christopher Polhill matriculated at Oxford, aged 17, in 1754. Edward was vicar of Dinton, 1695-1732.

1611 At this time one John Coleman, servant to Sir Gabriel Pyle, died and gave 20 marks to the poor of the parish, the use whereof to be employed to the binding of poor mens' sons apprentices to trades and to be disposed of by the churchwardens and overseers of the poor and so to remain for ever; he was buried at Marlborough. *Written after entries for 1611. He as buried 3 Jan 1614; will proved 1619 TNA PROB11/133*

General register, 1654-1773 (1211/2) *The register is adorned with fine examples of Ralph Dew's penmanship*

Ralph Dew of Dinton sworn as parish register before Walter Sowth esq, 25 Nov 1653.

Burial register, 1678-1724 (1211/7)

'How to make white ?ivor

take new slakd lime metel ...

1 pound of bees wax & ¼ pound mutton ... and lamblack

to joyn glass

the powder of a burnt egg shell, the white .. egg & slakd lime and vinegar

how harden a wom. [*?woman*] from eating

put green basil under the dish

steep an egg in the vinegar 2 day & nights

roal it on a table softly.'

DITTERIDGE

General register, 1584-1765 (1920/1) *A gathering of three books; one by Richard Bridges in 1641, eleven years after he became curate, and later, rector.*

Walter Duffin sworn as parish register by William Eyre, 4 Dec 1654

11 Aug 1674, record of the subscription to the doctrines in the Book of Common Prayer by Charles Bridges, rector. Witnesses: Henry Whatley (X), William Clement, John Cheltenham, George Rowswell (X), John Merrett (X), Joseph Jones.

DONHEAD ST ANDREW

General register, 1645-1741 (1732/1).

There are summary accounts of the churchwardens, overseers and surveyors of the highway, 1654-1744 with vestry resolutions on poor law and highway matters, 1695-1727 at the back of the register. Includes an order to the overseers to repair the church house, 1699.

George Luce sworn as parish register before Thomas Grove, 26 Sep 1653.

Edward Bryan sworn as parish register before Thomas Grove, 7 Apr 1656.

Notes about the arrival of William Prince of Orange in England and his coronation, 1688-1689.

10 Apr 1699 agreements for the apprenticing for six years of John Butcher to James Lush on Mr Prideaux's estate and Ann Butcher, his sister, to Richard Fezard on Lytes Court farm.

17 Feb 1726 received of Mr Jo Wright 6s 8d for burying Madam Grove in the church; Mathew Bowles, rector.

28 Feb 1726 received the same of Mr Warren on Mr Fezard's account.

8 Mar 1726 received of Mr Bowles for marbling the pillars and arches in the church 13s 6d; and for painting the bottles' rack and cupboard, 3s 9d. Richard Freek.

Given to Goody Bridle at the church reckoning: To Goody Ford 10s; to Goodman King 10s; to Goody Barrett 5s; to James Barrett 5s; to Widow Scamell, Milkwell 5s; to Goody Needle 5s; to Widow Scamell, churchouse 5s; to Stephen Compton's Goody Vanner 5s; to Goody Hunt 2s 6d; to Elizabeth Combs 2s 6d; to Widow Kidgil 2s 6d; to Widow Nan Vanner 2s 6d; to Peter Kendall 1s; to John Singleton the clerk 2s 6d.

It is agreed by the parishioners of Donhead St Andrew that they will not make this a precedent for the time to come; viz no more to be given on the reckoning day: George South, Mathew Bowles, John Gould.

Widow Varner's house rent £1; William Singleton 10s; John Gould gaol money 10s. *Undated, written among the accounts for 1696.*

DONHEAD ST MARY

Register of burials in woollen, 1678-1750 (980/1).

With vestry resolutions about poor relief, 1701-1704, overseers accounts 1705 and tax assessment for the tithings of Charlton, Dognel and Haystone, 1716-1717.

'Memorandum: Be it known that I have this Sixteenth day of October 1784 Sold and given up the entire Possession of the whole Seat Belonging to me near the Chancel on the South side of the Church of Dunhead St Mary to the Revd Thomas Smith for the Sum half a Guinea. The Receipt whereof is hereby Acknowledged by me, Henry Fricker. Witnessed by Thos Hull, John Green Clark of the parrish.'

General register, 1695-1702 (980/2).

Register set out in accordance with the Act imposing a tax on births, marriages and burials, 1695, with a census amended to 1698. [see Local Censuses]. On the cover are the numbers of inhabitants in 1695; tithings of Dognall, 243, Haystone, 291, and Charlton, 280; total 814.

DOWNTON**General registers 1602-1651, 1656-1682, 1756-1772 (914/1,2, 5)**

The earliest register has several illegible notes, mainly verse, the second records that William Roads was clerk of the parish, 1656 and the third notes that William Dove was clerk and sexton in 1756

Marriage regiser, 1754-1770 (914/9)

Sarah Arnold, having lately received a cure of the Salisbury Infirmary, desires to return humble and hearty thanks to Almighty God for the same, 2 Aug 1767.

DRAYCOT CERNE**General register, 1691-1776 (1093/1)**

5 Apr 1692 My Lady Dorothy Long paid to the churchwarden and overseer £5 for the use of the poor, being money forfeited for burying Sir James Long and Sir Robert Long contrary to the Act for Burying in Woollen only. Richard Humphreyes, rector, William Wats, Daniel Blincket, churchwarden.

1692 The aisle on the north side of the church was erected with a burying place beneath by Lady Dorothy Long and also the door on the north side of the churchyard by the dwelling place. Richard Humphryes, rector.

17 Sep 1752 the new scarlet pulpit cloth cushion fringe etc were given to the church by Lady Emma Long. Edward Ernle, rector.

9 Nov 1757 Sir Robert Long paid to the churchwardens and overseers £2 10s for not burying Mrs Dorothy Long in woollen only, which sum has been disbursed to the poor of the parish. Thomas Smith, curate.

24 Jun 1765 same by Sir Robert Long for the burial of Lady Long his mother. Thomas Smith, curate.

28 Feb 1767 same by Sir James Long for the burial of Sir Robert Long. Thomas Smith, curate.

5 Jul 1781 same by Sir James Tilney Long for the burial of Mrs Rachel Long. Francis Marias West, rector, Edward Rees. *The bodies of these members of the Long family went into lead caskets in the family tomb.*

DURNFORD**General register, 1653-1719 (1985/2)**

John Pinke, miller sworn as parish register by Richard Hill, 18 Sep 165...

The register is badly decayed. A typescript transcript records a similar note for Thomas Forthe, tailor sworn before Edward Tooker, 9 Jan 1653. Now hardly any of the details are legible. The burial on 21 Nov 1655 of Thomas Taylor alias Forte, if this is correct name of the 'register', would explain why a successor was appointed, as he had become unable to carry out his duties. The record of the burial of John Pinke on 25 Apr 1659 is followed by a note by Revd Edward Holland, 'This booke was delivered unto me in the year 1665'. It was not regularly used between these dates.

General register, 1751-1812 (1985/3)

John Talman instituted in to the vicarage 1727: The vicarage house has become

so ruinous by length of time and neglect by predecessors that was incapable of being put into tenantable repair; and Mr Talman was under a necessity of taking it down, to save some few of the old materials, to help towards his building a new one; which he did entirely at his own expense; and finished it in or about 1728. His immediate predecessor, Mr Craig, dying insolvent, he could recover nothing for dilapidation; and Mr T was obliged likewise to pay £5 or £6 for the arrears of the King's tenths, which Mr [Gilbert] Craig had neglected to pay into the Exchequer. Mr Talman also built an entire new stable, a pigeon house over it, a buttery and a cellar; repaired the old barn and built all the walls round the gardens and backside; and planted them with the choicest wall fruit trees. He also built the vicarial seat in the chancel, which by neglect was suffered to run to decay. And whereas the old ruinous house stood, part upon the north wall at the entrance to the churchyard, a very bad situation etc, Mr T chose to build the new house in the middle of the vicarial garden; and it consists of 5 sashes in the front, 2 parlours, 2 chambers, 2 garrets and a very good staircase. In the back part eastwards the kitchen stands, and over the kitchen are 2 chambers.

This is a just and fair representation of the vicarage of Durnford, when Mr T first came to the vicarage and since.

DURRINGTON

General register, 1591-1653 (1885/1)

It is so Henry Goodyer curate here for twelve whole years by Philip Poore, farmer of the rectory. *Written in Latin probably at the end of his time in Durrington. Goodyer signed the bishops transcripts, 1599-1601.*

I received the restoration by which Anne Rowe, wife of John Rowe, was restored into the church according unto the laws of God and this realm. I received the first day of November and published it on the second, and Anne Rowe is to give in true account of the administration in to the Chancery by St Andrews day [30 Nov] next which will be in the year 1605. William White

8 Feb 1605 by the computation of the Church of England, 1606 by 'Almen...' [*almanack*] possession of Knighton and Durrington was given up by Robert Martin, farmer of the same, to Philip Poore, Durrington, gent, for the use of Mr Edward Poore, his son, in the presence of Henry Kingsome, gent, Thomas Cooper of Knighton and Thomas Martin. William White, minister.

11 Apr 1606 agreement with Henry Stokes, Salisbury, glazier, and John Wheler, churchwarden of Durrington, to keep the church well glazed for his life. William White, minister, Robert Martin.

Same date, Henry Stokes paid for glazing of the church 6s.

13 Jun 1607 Libbes Manners gent being at evening prayers did use these words: I have, said he, £9 due to me every 20 years in Frome Woodlands of which £9 my wife shall have nothing to do withal; for there shall remain £3 for the heriot and 20s I give my tenant, and the other £5 I give to the poor of

Durrington to be given them by my wife and Mr Whit, the now minister at my death. Witnesses: William White, William Martine, clerk, Thomas Martin. *The phrase 'due to me every C [?100] years' seems very dubious; it would make more sense if it referred to 100 acres. In his will made 3 Jul 1607 and proved 22 Mar 1608, Libbens Manners made a bequest to the poor of Durrington of £3; in his inventory the rent from Frome Woodlands [in Somerset] was £6. [P2/M/212].*

'this registr booke was given in att vycitacion 4 of maii 1610 & was for the yere 1609 but the registr booke must be put in all wayes the 25 die march or in a fortnight after or els yt cost xij d yf yt be putt in a fortnight then nothing'. *The presentation of the register at visitations at Fisherton [Anger] is recorded each year, 1603-1609. This was probably before the archdeacon of Salisbury, who was based there and could check registers brought in after the actual time of the visitation.*

Memo 21 Jan 1609 ? about a settlement concerning the manor of Knighton and Durrington on the marriage of Edward Poore and Margaret, daughter of Abraham Conham, canon of Salisbury; James George and Mr Horsy, one party ... *The marriage took place in Durrington on 7 Feb 1609.*

'all these church goinges ever p[ai]d and discharged 26 of march 1610'

23 Nov 1612 Edmund Monday paid for glazing the chancel 16d.

Sermons preached in Durrington in the year:

2 Jun 1605 Mr Griffiths rector of Idmiston.

9 Jun 1605 Mr Parsons curate of Berwick St James.

11 Aug Mr Griffiths.

4 Jan 1607 Mr James of Freshwater, Isle of Wight preached in church; his text was Luke 12 v32 'feare not littell flocke for it is father's pleasur to give you a kingdom.' *The death and burial of Anne wife of Philip Poore, farmer of the rectory, at Freshwater on 2 Jul 1613, noted in the register, indicates the link with Durrington.*

6th Sunday in Lent 1607 and 7 Jun 1607 Mr Griffiths of Idmiston preached in church; his text was Esau 1 v16 'wash you.' [*Recte Isaiah*]

13 Sep 1607 Mr Brown of Winchester preached in church; his text was Mathew 6 v24 'and the pistle for the 15 sonday after Trinytie sonday; no man can serve too masters sowe can not serve God and Mammon, which was the doctrine he delivered unto.'

6 Jan 1608 Mr [Richard] Griffiths of Idmiston preached in church; his text was Mathew 2 v24

'when Jesus was borne in Bethelam in Jury in the time of Herod king.'

6 Jun 1608 Mr Griffiths of Idmiston preached in church; text John 14 v23 'yf any man love me he will keep my sayinges and my father will love him and we will come and dwell with him.'

9 Oct 1608 Mr Griffiths of Idmiston preached and showed the causes why we love not one another, 'out of the 14th ... to postle John.'

20 Feb... Mr Griffiths of Idmiston preached in church and ended; his text John 14 v23

24 Sep ... Mr Griffiths of Idmiston preached in church; text M... 2...

17 Jun 1610 Mr Gilbert ... erve, bachelor of arts of Magdalen college, Oxford preached; he was sent hither by Mr Evans of Lingisall [*Lindsell, Essex*] and John Fox of Hanwell in Middlesex, preacher, with whom this man did serve; he serves Mr Thomas Somersfeld within the diocese of Asaph; his text 1 Peter 2 v2; 'as newe borne babes.'

13 Sep 1612 Mr Richard Griffiths of Idmiston preached; his text John 14 v23 'Jesus ans wrd and said unto him yf one man love me he will keepe my sayings and my father will love him and we will come unto him and make our dwelling with him.'

27 Sep [1612] Mr Richard Griffiths of Idmiston preached and ended the former sermon; John 14 v23.

1 Nov [1612] Mr [John] Ring, vicar of Netheravon preached; his text Romans 3 v18 'there is no feare of God before Jesus.'

6 Dec [1612] Mr Ring, vicar of Netheravon preached and ended the first sermon; Romans 3 [v18]

18 Apr 1613 Mr Cooper of Bulford and Milston, minister, preached; his text was Psalm 32 v11 'great plague remayn for the on godly but who so putteth his trust in the lord's mercy embraceth him on every syde.'

1 Aug 1613 Mr Cooper preached; his text was John 6 v8 'when the comfoter comes he will reprove the world of sin and of righteous ...'

26 Sep 1613 Mr Ring preached; his text was Mathew 5 v4 'blessed are they that moorne ... they shalbe comforted'

21 Nov 1613 Mr Cooper of Bulford preached; his text was 1 Corinthians 15 v55-57 'where is sting, o hell where is thy victory and so the end of.'

2 Jan 1614 Mr Ring preached; his text was Luke 2 v10 'be not afraid for behold I bring you glad tydings of great joy that shal be too all people.'

21 Feb 1614 Mr Cooper preached; his text was Mathew 22 v11-13 the king came & found one having not on a wedding garment.

8 May 1614 Mr Cooper preached; his text was Luke 1 [*recte* 5] v5 'then it came to pass as the people pressed upon to hear the word of God that hee stood by the lake of Gennesaret.'

21 Aug 1614 Mr Ring of Netheravon, vicar preached; his text was Ephesians 1 v1

Oct 1614 Mr [Walter] Byse of Everleigh, Mr [John] Barnston's minister preached his text Revelation 2 v16 'Repent thyselfe or els I will come a thee shortly and will fighte againste thee with the Sword of my mouth'.

27 Dec 1614 Mr Ringe of Netheravon preached, his text Mathew 1v23, 24 'be hold avirgin shalbe with Child & shall bring forth Asone & they shall call his name Emanuel which is by interpretation god with us the Joseph being raised from Sleepe did as the Angile of the lord had bedden hime'.

15 Jan 1615 Mr Byse of Everleigh preached; his text Hebrews 9 v27 'as yt is appointed to men once to Dye then cometh the Judgment'.

10 Aug 1615 Mr Ring of Netheravon preached; his text Ephesians 5 v2 'and walke in love even as Christ loved us & hath geven himselfe for us to be ann offering & a sacrifice of a swete smeling savour to god.'

11 Jun 1615 Mr Cooper preached; his text John 16 v8 'when the Comforte is come he will rebuke the world of sinne & of rightousnes & Judgment.'

20 Aug 1615 Mr Ring preached; his text Ephesians [5] v3 'but fornicacion &

all uncleanes orr Covetiousse lete yt not be once named a mongst you that becometh Saintes.'

19 Nov 1615 Mr Ring preached; his text Ephesians 5 v6 'let no man deceive you with vaine words for be cause of such things cometh the wroth of god upon the children of dysob[e]d[ien]s'.

19 Feb 1616 Mr Ring preached; his text Psalm 69 v10 'I wepte & chastned my Selfe with fasting & that was turned to my reprove' [*reproach*].

3 Apr 1616 Mr Cooper preached; his text Jonah 3 v4&pt5 '40 days & nynyvy [*Ninevah*] shalbe destroyd & they repented.'

20 May 1616 Mr Sprat preached; his text Mark 13 v33 'take hede watch & pray you fall not into temptation.'

4 Aug 1616 Mr Ring of Netheravon preached; his text Amos 1 v9&10 'thus sayeth the lord for three transgresions & for the iiij I will not turne away the punishmente thereof be cause they delivered up the whole captivity to Edem; but I will send a fire on the wall of Tyrus which shall devore the palaces there of'.

11 Aug 1616 Mr [Thomas] Sprat of Winterbourne [Earls] preached; his text Mathew 22 v2 'the kingdom of heaven is loke unto a certaine kinge that married his sin and sent forth his servants to call them that they were bidden to the wedding and they would not come'.

3 Nov 1616 Mr Cooper preached; his text Jonah 3 v3,4 & pt 5.

8 Dec 1616 Mr Ring preached; his text Colossians 3 v8 'But now put ye of all wroth fearsnes'

Christmas Day 1616 Mr Drury, a traveller, preached; his text Mathew 11 v28 'Come unto me all ye that travill & I will ese you'

13 Jan 1617 Mr Powell, minister of Freshwater, Isle of Wight, preached; his text 2 Corinthians 12 v14pt 'for I seeke not yours but you.'

23 Feb 1617 Mr Ring preached; his text Colossians 3 v8 'But put ye of wrath' & so as in the text.

22 Apr 1617 Mr Sprat preached; his text Romans 14 v9 'Christ there fore dyed & Rose againe & revyved that he might be lord both of quycke & deade'

4 May 1617 Mr Powell of Freshwater, Isle of Wight, preached; his text 'And yf ye leive afar the flesh you shall dy but yf leve after the Spirit ye shall lyve.'

10 Jun 1617 Mr Sprat preached; his text John 16 v7, 8 'never the lesse I tell you the truth that is expedient for you that I go away for yf I go not away the Comforter will not come.'

13 Jul 1617 Mr Ring preached; his text 3[*recte*5] v3 'blessed be the poore in spirit for theirs is kingdom of heaven.'

18 Jul 1617 Mr Ring preached; his text Revelation 2 end of v10 'be thou faithfull unto death and I will give the Crown of lyff.'

3 Aug 1613 Dr Wilkes preached at Amesbury before his ...; his text Psalm 89 v4 'thy sede will I stablysh for ever and set up thy throne from one generation to another.'

Probably William Wilkes rector of Barford St Martin and chaplain to James I

General register, 1653-1697 (1885/2)

Leonard Maton, clerk, sworn as parish register before Francis Swanton, 30 Dec 1653.

EAST COULSTON

General register, 1714-1812 (660/1)

1731 I received from Mrs Hall, executrix of the late Mrs Godolphin of Coulston a velvet carpet for the communion table by the hands of Mr Coward. Francis Green, rector

26 Jul 1732 I received likewise from Mrs Hall (by hand of Mr Coward) a piece of plate with Mrs Godolphin's arms upon it for the use of the communion table. Francis Green, rector.

27 May 1750 Mr Mathew Gent, Mr James Sutton and Mr Henry Williams, all of Devizes, received the Holy Sacrament in the parish church of Coulston by the hands of Mr [Robert] Burnet, vicar of West Lavington. Witness James Alexander. *Receiving the sacrament was a prerequisite to them holding public offices and may be the reason for the note.*

EAST KENNETT

General register, 1655-1812 (1404/1)

William Hasland of East Kennett sworn as parish register before William Blissett, 9 Apr 1655.

Mr John Sturmeley gave these following books and a box to keep them in for the use of the incumbent curate of East Kennett: The works of the author of The Whole Duty of Man [*Richard Allestree*] viz; The Whole Duty of Man; The Government of the Tongue; The Art of Contentment; The Lively Oracles; The Gentleman's or Lady's Calling; The Causes of the Decay of Christian Piety. The first and third volumes of Bishop Hall's works; An exposition of the Creed by the bishop of Chester; Dr Littleton's Sermons; 23 sermons written upon several occasions bound up in one volume. The books above mentioned were all resigned to my successor, 25 Mar 1690 by me William Spencer.

10 May 1693 all the foresaid books (except the third volume of Bishop Hall's works) were left safe in the box in which they are usually kept when I quitted the cure of East Kennett. *Not signed but Thomas Twinning was curate then; see subscription book 1690 [D1/22/6]*

20 Jun 1813; note by A[rchibald] A[dair] Brice, curate [of East Kennett] and rector of St James, Suffolk, concerning the omission in the baptismal register of John son of Richard and Repentance Spruls 'owing as it is supposed to the age and infirmity of the clergyman who officiated at the time Revd Mr [John] Bromwich, as Thomas and Mary Tilly both persons worthy of belief, have this day informed me, that they were both present at the baptism in the parish church; Thomas Tilly is now clerk - & is going on for thirty years.

Bromwich was curate from c1750-1787, and it is likely that the oversight took place towards the end of his incumbency.

EAST KNOYLE

General register, 1538-1812 (536/2)

Richard Dewe of East Knoyle sworn as parish register before Thomas Grove, 23 Feb 1654

A particular of what money was gathered in the parish of East Knoyle 6 Nov 1670 towards the redeeming of Turkish captives:

Mr Hill, rector £1; Mr Derby, curate 4s; Anthony Tayler 4d; Mr Dirdoe 5s; James Horder 6d; John Sharp 2d; Mrs Bowreman 2s; John Stone 9d; Peter Butler 2d; John Guyar 4d; Edward Becket 6d; Edward Strong 2d; Anne Iffamy 2d; Robert Jarnet 6d; Mr Rooses 5s; Richard Hascall 2d; Richard Dew 2d; Edward Troubridge 1d; Thomas Husse 6d; Robert Gesley 6d; Henry Gesley 3d; William Davis 3d; Christopher Willoughby 4d; George Widmore 4d; Thomas Perman 6d; Thomas Snook 6d; William Edmonds 6d; Mr Robert Burlton 2s; Nicholas Froud 3d; Mr William Burlton 2s; Mrs Hearne 1s; Mr Obourne 1s 6d; Mr Dominick 1s; Robert Browne 1s; John Williams 4d; Thomas King 6d; Edward Lampert 2d; William Obourne of Milton 4d; Tristram Merchaunt 2d; Anne Foster 2d; William Obourne of Lye 4d.

EASTON GREY

General register, 1725-1812 (1871/1)

Mar 8 1737 John Harris MA was inducted into the real, actual and corporal possession of the rectory and parish church of Easton Grey with all and singular its rights, members and appurtenances by Jeremiah Butt vicar of Sherston; in the presence of Richard Goodenough, William Clark, John Hillier. He was presented to the rectory by Walter Hodges DD provost of Oriel college in the university of Oxford. *Names all in the same hand.*

EASTON ROYAL

General register, 1580-1741, (615/1)

John Stagg, Easton, tailor, sworn as parish register before William Blissett, 9 May 1657

Israel Ridley, minister, signed the register from 1634 to 1643.

John Stagg his book 23 Mar 1701.

The fees: For every christening 4d; for every burial 4d; for every publication [*banns of marriage*] 12d; and of both parties of the parish 2s; and for either certificate 12d. *Probably written c1730.*

General registers, 1741-1762, 1762-1799 (615/2, 4)

The following lists are compiled from versions in each register.

Joseph Wall minister 1713

Mr William Jons began preaching at Easton, 13 Aug 1721; Mr Richard Coob began preaching at Easton, 9 Feb 1724; Mr [Henry] Howard began preaching at Easton, 20 Aug 1738; Mr Loggan began preaching at Easton, 1739; Mr Howard took Easton after Mr Loggan and held it to his death; 18 Jan 1766 Mr Curtoys was made curate of Easton.

Francis Rosier began as [*parish*] clerk 3 Apr 1717; Henry Peirce began as clerk, Whitsun Sunday, 22 May 1743; Edward Peirce (the son of Henry) being clerk in the room of his father; Henry Howard minister, 18 Feb 1764.

EBBESBOURNE WAKE

General register, 1653-1720 (1052/1)

Henry Roberts of Ebbesbourne Wake sworn as parish register before Walter Southe, 23 May 1654.

General Register, 1720-1773 (1052/2)

Samuel Jobson published clerk by Mr [John] Shuttleworth, curate, April 2nd being Palm Sunday 1732.

Joseph Young published clerk March 26th 1758, being Easter Sunday at Ebbesbourne and Fifield both in one day by Mr Henry Good curate at both places at that time.

EDINGTON

General register, 1678-1789 (1660/1)

14 Feb 1774 the elm tree was planted by Roger Carter in Edington churchyard. The stones go around the tree.

EISEY

General register, 1574-1788 (633/1)

Thomas Fordleis was curate in 1599. *The first in a list of incumbents, the others all in Phillipps.*

Mr Walter Jones was sworn as parish register before Robert Hippisley and William Sadler, 26 Dec 1653. *Jones was vicar 1643-1666.*

1663 £10 5s 4d laid out for repairs to the church and necessary ornaments, John Blackwill, John Parsons, churchwardens; 8s 3d left over and handed to the next churchwardens, John Portlocke and Thomas Portlocke. Walter Jones vicar

General register, 1731-1798 (633/4)

15 Jul 1746 received of Mr John Coal £3 8s for one year's house rent of

Langlybroom house by me E Clarke. Witnesses: Alexander Ready, John Moorlong, E Clarke junior.

ENFORD

General register, 1631-1722 (772/1)

Thomas Jacob MA was inducted into the parish church and vicarage of Enford by Joseph Durnford curate of Fittleton before Richard Carter of Longstreet, John Ranger of Fifield, William Banks of Compton, parishioners of Enford, 3 Dec 1670.

>17 Apr 1697 acknowledgement by William Reeve senior of Enford to pay to the parish officers £5 to the poor, the interest to the churchwardens and overseers for ever, bequeathed by John Kinfield of Enford bachelor. Thomas Jacobs, vicar<

Receipt of sum paid to the parish officers, Easter Monday 1711. Thomas Jacobs [vicar].

For the will see P2/K/276.

General register, 1722-1788 (772/2)

20 May 1753 We whose names are underwritten do acknowledge the receipt of £10 each of the parish stock money (being the £40 this last year in the hands of Mr Robert Baden, overseer) and promise to be accountable to the parish at Easter next for the same together with a year's interest at the rate of 5%. Robert Noyes, A Baden, Henry Hunt, William Baden.

12 May 1754 £30 of the above stock money is £10 each from Mr Robert Noyes, Mr William Baden and Mr Henry Hunt was paid down in the vestry this day and delivered £20 of it into the hands of Mr Robert Noyes and £10 into the hands of Thomas Weeks, overseers.

May 20 1753 received of the parish 6s 8d for a sermon preached at Easter Monday last, as usual. Same 12 May 1753. Same 13 Apr 1755, all signed by William Cooke vicar

ETCHILHAMPTON

General register, 1630-1750 (1182/12)

29 Sep 1653 A true catalogue taken of all the marriages, births and burials within the parish of Enford by John Willis register.

I John Ernle have in my hands the sum of £20 given by two of the Dorchesters to the poor of Etchilhampton that do not receive relief of the parish, 7 Jul 1730. I William Fowle do acknowledge that the abovementioned sum of £20 is lodged in my hand, 8 Oct 1734.

William Dorchester of Etchilhampton left £10 in his will proved, 1721 [P3/D/297]. Robert Dorchester of Etchilhampton left £5 to the poor in his will proved, 1724 [P3/D/309].

'Anne Smith Anne Stoodley | Madam Stoodley we will all goo | A fishing and met some more of | Our frinds some call them Jepses.' *Written by John Ernle mid 18th cent*

EVERLEIGH

General register, 1598-1652, (651/1)

When I first came to this parish, being about eleven or twelve years past, it was said there had been a custom long before of making the neighbourhood eat >only bread and cheese< and drink at the parsonage house on Christmas day after evening prayer, which custom out of neighbourly kindness, or out of weakness, (for I misliked it) I continued accordingly til the gunpowder treason 1605; after which time we agreed, both I and the parishioners, (except one or two) that drinking should be on the fifth of November, in remembrance of our deliverance, which continued some few years, but after they desired to have it on their old day and so had; this present 9 Sep 1610. John Barnstone. I never required and claimed of my neighbours a custom from them in lieu of this custom, as both reason and example of other parishes persuaded me; but they either knew it not, or conceal it. JB.

Also I found a custom (as was said) that the parson should cut the tithe corn that grows on the ancient arable land of the farm>being (as they said) eight or nine yardlands< which custom I also consented unto, and though the present farmer to the king has cut it some years yet I paid for the same; the day and year above written. Barnstone.

The ... Ale, as I may call it, I continued invita Minerva [*ie against the grain*] to avoid the clamours of the ruder sort of the parish, who flock to it as to a Christmas pastime. I could never learn how this heathenish custom had its first birth or original; sure I am it is of evil report and no man can enquire into what rudeness in tract of time it may degenerate. It were to be wished that it were laid in the dust and utterly forgotten. Thomas Ernle, rector, 25 Dec 1667. *The missing words have been scraped from the parchment.*

General Register, 1653-1691 (651/2)

Edward Ansell, Everleigh, blacksmith sworn as parish register before Edward Tooker, 26 Nov 1653.

21 Jul 1669 in our perambulation and view of our parish bounds we began at the first Head Ball in Combs Dean near Butchers pit, or as some call it Sadlers well, which parts Everleigh, Fittleton and Combe. The second head bound or ball which we viewed was called Saulters Ball near the Three Barrows in West Everleigh field, which bound parts of Everleigh, Chisenbury, Upavon and Manningford Bohun, commonly called Bounston. The third head bound parts of Manningford Bruce, Pewsey and Everleigh; this bound is not far from the Race post. The fourth head bound parts Pewsey, Shercot and Everleigh; this bound not far from the former. The fifth head bound parts Pewsey, Milton and Everleigh and is by the highway side near Mrs Gunter's wood. The sixth head bound called Knights barrow, parts Collingbourne Kingston, Milton and Everleigh; from thence we pass through some part of the wood called Linne

Down where the balls are somewhat obscure and hard to be found, from thence to the stone near the park belonging Sir John Evelin. This was all at this time viewed; the rest was left for our next perambulation, ut sequitur [as follows] *Blank*.

List of rectors in Latin: Samuel Heron BD 1591-1592, on the death of the previous rector: John Barnston MA 23 Nov 1598: Christopher Tesdale MA 5 Jul 1645, on the death of the previous rector; value of the rectory £16 4s 2½ d: Thomas Ernle MA 29 Sep 1660.

Note in Latin by Thomas Ernle rector from 1660:

Of events forever shameful: Under the military regime of Oliver Cromwell (who snatched the sovereignty of this kingdom, first by the wickedness, trickery, bloodshed and treachery of others, but especially and principally by his own). A certain runt of a man, William Eastman (commonly called 'Tinker', whose true occupation was a ploughwright) was thrust into the rectory of this parish, divided by fanatics? [*fiantis*], and was aroused by these jackdaws for five years; he attracted to himself much gossip and the concealment of lowly sorts of people. Charles II having been restored, he was expelled, not without much heartache on the part of his followers, 30 Sep 1660: but the more completely exposed by the abuse and jeers, he left with the dregs of his followers [*cum pannis*] 'Exit Tinker, Let all men henceforth Know, | A Thorne was planted wher a Vine should grow | Downe went saint Paul, Apollo & Cephas | For silver Trumpets here was sounding Brasse.'

Much in this register is disordered, scattered in confusion without any order of system; from here however you will find things correct and proper.

This register was begun in the days of the king's exile when Oliver Cromwell usurped the authority of this Realme under the title of Protector: It is most confused till the year 1660 when K Charles the 2nd was restored and Thomas Ernle settled in this parish 29 Sep 1660.

All the sycamore trees were planted by Thomas Ernle, rector; and all the 'mussle' plum trees and young ash tree; the skilling and straw house, built by Thomas Ernle; and the wood house and mud wall round the rick yard, and pales round the court, by Thomas Ernle.

General register, 1691-1757 (651/3)

1692 the new building over the cellar consisting of two rooms upon a floor was finished. Towards which and the repairing of the old building sir John Ernle, executor to Mr Thomas Ernle, my predecessor, allowed me fourscore pounds. Nothing of the said new built part of the house was left standing but a lug or two of the cellar walls on the east side of the cellar. Walter Garrett, rector.

21 May 1693 Gilbert Burnet, bishop of Sarum preached and confirmed in Everleigh church.

12 Dec 1711 last summer in the tenth year of our gracious and renowned sovereign Queen Anne, was our church of Enford new white washed and adorned with verses by John Gambol, a mason of Devizes. Mr Thomas Kingston of the farm, Samuel Monk, a livier of West Town, churchwardens. The

chancel also was the new white washed and the verses where they wanted it new drawn over. Walter Garrett, rector.

The rails on the south side of the churchyard from the wicket (or gate) to the church park were new set up in 1710. WG.

18 Feb 1738 I was inducted into the rectory of Everleigh and presented to the same by the duke of Portland to whom I have the honour to be domestic chaplain since 1729. A[braham] Le Moine.

I have planted all the young trees round the garden wall and all the standards, built the shed in the long yard; the buttresses round the chancel and planted all the young trees in the churchyard. *Note by Abraham Le Moine, rector, entered after the marriages for 1739.*

16 May 1755 when I came to this living and found two very bad customs for which no reason can be assigned: One is the entertainment of bread, cheese and ale on Christmas day, but on the alteration of the style I removed it to 5th January; the other is paying to this farmer of the lord of the manor the tenth penny of the charge of his harvest of which would some times come to £4 and this I thought a very great imposition and refused a long time to pay it; but as it was an old custom (the origin of which I could not trace) and for peace sake I have agreed to pay in future 40s a year and no more. By which the custom is actually broke and my successors may do as they please. A[braham] Le Moine. *The reference to style is the change in 1752 of the calendar after which the year began on 1 Jan not 25 Mar as before. The other custom is presumably the one mentioned above in 1610 which imposed the cost of cutting the tithe corn on the rector.*

General register, 1757-1812 (651/5)

NB Edward Dear of Pewsey was buried at Everleigh. [*Buried 24 Mar 1811 aged 66*] The sum of £2 13s 4d, having been demanded for 'breaking the ground' at Pewsey; which sum his friends were totally unable to pay. Francis B Astley curate.

16 Mar 1812 Revd Charles Francis MA visited this parish as one of the rural deans of the deanery of Marlborough. J Pinkney churchwarden. *Deaneries were revived in the diocese in 1811 by Bishop John Fisher. For the archdeacon's report see D1/21/2.*

Minutes of a vestry meeting, 24 Apr 1812 about the ruinous state of the church; 'the outside walls are falling down, notwithstanding several buttresses of brick and masonry, at various times built to support them, and it is expedient to take down the walls and rebuild the church, and it would be more convenient for the parishioners in general to alter the situation of the church to a new site on Church hill leading to Lower Everleigh, a site given by F D Astley. Present F D Astley, W Pinckney, churchwarden, J Simpkins, N Cook, J Palmer, H Strong, J Martin, C Summersby, John Imrey, Thomas Daw.

Account of the old church; the first stone was laid by Mr W Pinckney,

church-warden on 7 May 1813 and the removal of the old church began on 2 Jun following. The materials of the old building were partly used in making a foundation to the new one, and afterwards in erecting the churchyard wall and the wall of the parsonage garden, but they were of little value exclusive of the lead. No date of much antiquity was discovered in or about the old church, save one, on a brass plate, to one of its rectors, who seems to have been buried in the church in 1404. The chancel is said to have been built by William of Wykeham and was a handsome structure; the parapet wall beautifully carved with the arms of the see of Winchester; it was formed of a square of Chilmark stone and one of flint alternately. The church was a miserable heap of rubbish composed of chalk and flint, held together in the inside by iron cramps, and on the outside by buttresses of brick; the tower exactly similar, containing three bells, the oldest cast in the reign of one of the Edwards, and much impaired. In pulling down part of the wall on the south of the church, a pinnacle of the former church was discovered, bearing evident marks of rich sculpture; this and a few ancient paving tiles etc are now in Mr Astley's possession. Completed Michaelmas 1814.

FARLEY

General register, 1661-1761 (1891/1)

Note that the register was produced in case in chancery Zouch, querent v Hammer, baronet, defendant, 5 Jan 1716 and 4 Jan 1718; in the latter case it was shown to Revd Thomas Reddon, clerk. *And see p 3.*

The old chapel yard at Farley is in length $7\frac{3}{4}$ lug, in breadth, at the north end 3 lug, in the middle $4\frac{1}{2}$ lug, and at the south end $2\frac{1}{2}$ lug. The ground in the whole is $25\frac{1}{2}$ lug. Witness our hands 14 Feb 1713, Robert Arnoll, John Whitlock (X), William Batten (X).

General register, 1761-1813 (1891/2)

Robert White clerk of Farley 1761. *On title to register. He was buried 3 Jun 1763.* Robert White made clerk 4 Jun 1763.
Pitton: George Read clerk 1761; Cornelius Read made clerk 13 Oct 1780.

FIFIELD BAVANT

General register, 1696-1789 (1052/8)

26 May 1713 note by John Shuttleworth rector; in the bishops registers office in Salisbury I found a terrier; *transcript of the 1608 glebe terrier.* See WRS vol 56 p 172.

13 Nov 1714 note by John Shuttleworth rector, of a deed of augmentation of the rectory by lord viscount Weymouth, who died 28 Jul 1714, aged 74; by a deed bearing date Dec 1709 he settled £20 p a on the parsonage charged on the manors of Ross and Weobley in Herefordshire; to be paid in even portions half yearly. This account John Shuttleworth, rector, had from Mr John

Old, steward to lord Weymouth, who said he made the deed and witnessed it. It was enrolled in Chancery 1715, 1716.

An account of coppices paying tithe wood to the rectory: The coppice called Horses Stubbs cut at Michaelmas in 1711; number of whole acres (including the farmer's acre) 7a 27 lugs; value of the wood sold (besides the one acre which was for the use of the farm) was £26 14s 2½ d; so the tithe came to £2 13s 5d.

Darkwood Pound coppice cut in 1714; number of acres in the whole (including the farmer's acre) 7a 98 lugs; value of the wood sold (besides the one acre which was for the use of the farm) was £16 11s . . . ; so the tithe came to £1 13s 1¼ d.

General register, 1787-1812 (1052/9)

Poor rate: Marquis of Bath 17s 7d; Mr Diggle for the parsonage 4s 2d; Mrs Penruddock for Woodhouse 2s; Mr Heazell for the crofts 1s 2d; Mrs Cole for Land close 2d. Total £1 5s 1d. *Undated but probably 1790x1796 from the Land tax assessments [A1/345/176]*

FIGHELDEAN

General register, 1653-1729 (1756/1)

John Cannons of Figheldean sworn as parish register before me Edward Tooker, 27 Dec 1656

'Tune thou my hart likewise my tonge
with them in consort then I'll sing
thy Praises midst the sacred throng
my gracious God my guide my king
no other works should more Employ
my wakefull thoughts than songs of Joy
till in the Church triumphant
I eternal halalua cry.'

A list of the names of those persons in the parish of Figheldean who have contributed towards the redemption of the English captives under Turkish slavery together with the sums of money collected November 3rd 1670:

Mr Charles Wylles, vicar 2s 6d; William Holmes senior 1s; William Sheppard 1s; Thomas Cooper senior 9d; William Smart senior 9d; Richard Hern 6d; Thomas Sheppard 6d; Mrs Legg 6d; Richard Stockwell 6d; Christopher Brumham 1s; James Holmes 6d; John Webb 6d; Alexander Swayne 6d; John Ricketts 6d; William Smart junior 6d; George Sheppard 6d; John Hunt 6d; William Holmes junior 6d; Nathaniel Cooper 4d; Thomas Cooper junior 4d; John Legg 3d; Thomas Cannons 3d; Peter Storer junior 3d; Widow Whitlock 3d; Christopher Stockwell 3d; Jasper Stockwell 3d; Thomas Bollen 3d; Peter Storer senior 3d; Robert Stockwell 3d; Nathaniel Cannons 2d; John Sheppard 2d; Robert Beaman 2d; John Hart 2d; Joan Lawrence 2d; John Whitlocke 2d; Widow Holmes 2d; James Lawrence 2d;

John Parsons 2d; John Buckland 2d; Martin Lawrence 2d; Ann Guyne 2d; Henry Munday 2d; John Cannons 2d; Henry Holmes 2d; James Hutchins 2d; Thomas Cannons junior 1d; John Holmes 1d; Nicholas Holmes 1d; Robert Jole 2d; Thomas Holmes 2d. Total 19s 2d. A duplicate of this was sent to Dr Drake, November 14th 1670. Charles Wylles, vicar, Robert Stockwell, William Holmes, churchwardens.

Dr Drake was Richard Drake, chancellor of Salisbury cathedral under whose jurisdiction Figheldean lay.

General register, 1730-1760 (1756/2)

To find the drock of the well, measure 2ft along the west end of the vicarage from the outside of the back door post towards the upper end of the garden and then measure 8ft directly from the house towards the grass plot. The well is covered with timber and was repaired Feb 1739.

Memo the drock of the above mentioned well was examined by Leonard Lawes on 15 Jan 1745 and found to be rotten and that a new one was set up in its room by him.

Mr Green's well is fourscore feet deep.

William Whiller parish clerk of Figheldean 1753.

General register, 1758-1812 (1756/3)

Money collected at the Sacrament for the benefit of the poor, Sunday 3 Oct 1762, 7s 1d; J[ames] Corbridge vicar. Distributed: 4 Oct Thomas Gilbert 1s; 8 Oct William Stockwell 1s, Aly Holmes 1s; 9 Oct William Sawyer 2s; 20 Oct Elizabeth Gilbert 1s. Total 6s; 1s 1d undistributed. *Same* Saturday 25 Dec 1762 9s 2 ½d; 1s 1d remaining. Distributed: 26 Dec George Holmes 1s, Thomas Sheppard 1s, William Holmes 1s, William Sheppard 1s; 27 Dec John Kinger 1s 3 ½d; 29 Dec William Farley 6d; 3 Jan 1763 William Carter 1s; 15 Jan Aly Holmes 1s 6d, Elizabeth Gilbert 1s, - Sawyer 1s.

Sums of mony collected for briefs: 3 Jan 1763 for the building of Saarbruch [*Saarbrucken*] church in Germany and a school there: from house to house Revd [James] Corbridge 2s 6d; Mr Dyke 1s; Mr Shepherd 6d; Mr Cannon 1d; Mrs Waters 2d; Mrs Harris 2d; Mr Whitmarsh 3d; Mr Joules 2d; Mr Scott 6d; Mr Wheeler 2d. Total 5s 6d.

FISHERTON ANGER

General register, 1653-1706 (1902/1)

John Cook, register 1653. Edward Cleverly, register 1654. *Both names are in the heading of these years' burials and marriages.*

General register, 1706-1731 (1902/2)

[1729] when Robert Surman & I reckoned there was due to me 1s 2d; Since received for Mr Bristow's child 2s 6d, & for 2 burials 1s 2d; 14 May I

received it at the White Horse; received for Mr Jo Thorp's funeral 15s 10d. *The burials took place in 1729; see parish register. John Thorp was the rector of Pewsey.*

6 Nov 1729 received for Mr Warren's wife funeral 2s 6d.

13 Nov 1730 made even with Robert Surman for all funerals to that day.

27 Apr 1731 when Robert & I accounted there was 4s 1d, since he received 1d of Blake Carter which makes just 4s.

31 May 1731 received of Robert Surman 5s & 4s 3d before 'sine' [*signing*] the last reckoning. *These are accounts between the incumbent and the clerk or sexton for the burial fees due to each.*

General register, 1731-1753 (1902/3)

26 Dec 1734: Anthony Christover 1s; Thomas Smith 1s; William Buller senior 6d; Miss Davis 6d; Martha Butler 6d; Ann Bennet 1s; William Surman 6d. *Presumably recipients of charitable donations.*

General register, 1801-1812 (1902/6)

William Luke, parish clerk and Peter Harrison, curate 1 Jan 1801.

FITTLETON

General register, 1624-1752 (2094/1)

Notes by Stephen Jay on becoming rector in 1660.

'Wee are born crying, wee live laughing, wee Dye sighing, Ste. Jay'

At the beginning of the baptisms for 1660.

'All these dyed in the time of trouble & distraction in England while the Lawfull Parson was ejected, & an Intruder put in.' *Written at the end of the list of burials, 1654-1659, compiled by Jay.*

On the end page quotations from the Authorised Version of the Bible; Psalm 90 v12, 39 v5, Zachariah 1 v3, Ecclesiastes 1 v4, 11 v8, Job 14 v14, Psalm 39 v12, Ecclesiastes 12 v13, Revelation 22 v20.

25 Apr 1662 Memo; it is covenanted and agreed upon by and between Stephen Jay, rector of Fittleton and Haxton and the inhabitants thereof whose names are hereunto subscribed, that they the said inhabitants shall pay to Stephen Jay for every tenth lamb due and becoming titheable on St Mark's day [25 Apr] yearly, the just proportion and sum of 2s 1d and so for all odd lambs after the same proportion 2½ d a lamb; and this agreement to continue in force for and during the space of Stephen Jay his life and continuing rector . Stephen Jay, William Barton, Robert Hart.

25 Apr 1692 same agreement as above with John Buckenham, rector.

An account of the churchyard rails belonging to Haxton as they were delivered to the churchwardens Soloman Ranger and Leonard Mundy by the parishioners of Haxton 18 Nov 1705: The 3 perches of rails next to the corner of Mr Beache's Pigeon close belong to Mr Clerk's farm; the next 4 perches belong to Mr Clerk's Little farm in Haxton which was lately Rangers; the next perch belongs to Thomas Lawes; the next to William Coster; the next

to Stephen Lawes > now Nathaniel Mannings< and Bartholemew Street; the next to Richard Piper; the next to John Dicke; the next to Stephen Lawes and Thomas Rolfe; the next to George Brumham; the next to John Ivy; the next to Mr Barton; the next to Mr Barton and Thomas Lawes; the next 2 perches to Widow Rolfe; the next perch adjoining to Mr Beaches orchard belonging to Mr Clerke >now Jacob Brumham<; the short rails of about 3 ft long between the widow Rolfes and Mr Clerk's are said by the parishioners of Haxton to belong to the Portionary; they were to my knowledge last repaired by Mr James Clerke. Roger Kay, rector.

Memo in 1731 that perch of rails next to Thomas Lawes' appeared to belong to Nathaniel Mannings and George Peirce (late Streets) and the perch between that and Piper's perch to William Coster and were by them repaired; this I mentioned lest the above wrong placing the said two perches of rails should cause any dispute for the time to come. Witness my hand this 8th Dec 1731. William Coster, curate.

27 Oct 1708: at the request of Mr Henry Clerke of Haxton and for his conveniency of enlarging his seat in the parish church of Fittleton, we Mr Roger Kay, rector of Fittleton (on the behalf of Mr Henry Edes), William Coster and Thomas Adams of Haxton have consented and agreed to exchange their seats belonging to them in the seat next to Mr Henry Clerke's seat in the church of Fittleton with the said Mr Henry Clerke, for these seats following; Mr Edes is to have the second seat from the pillar on the south side of the church belonging to Mr Clerk's Living in Haxton commonly called Bustards. William Coster is to have the north end seat in the 2nd rank of seats from the pulpit belonging to Mr Clerk's 5 yardlands in Haxton commonly called Harts. Thomas Adams is to have the north end seat in the 3rd rank of seats belonging to Mr Clerk's Living in Haxton commonly called Butlers. And whereas Mr Henry Clerke has set up a seat at the east end of the south aisle, it was done by the consent of the minister and churchwardens and other inhabitants of the parish. Witness our hands Roger Kay, rector, Soloman Ranger, Leonard Mundy, churchwardens, Henry Clerke, Thomas Adams (X), William Coster, William Beach, Richard Piper

Memo that in 1710 part of the sheep down adjoining to Everleigh warren was broken up and it was then agreed upon by all and every one of the parties concerned that every one should have by his particular allotment as it was then set out, distinctly several and apart to himself for time to come, to plow, sow and manage as he shall think fit; and this was done, in order towards defraying the charges of fencing the down against the warren which by articles of agreement is always to be kept up with a good and sufficient bank and hedge as do by the said articles more fully appear. The allotment of down belonging to the parsonage is as follows: two acres, Robert Sopp on the south east side and Mr Edes on the north west side; these two acres shoot up on the warren; one acre 20 lugs shooting also upon the warren, Mr Edes on south east side and John Brumham on north west side. Roger Kay, rector.

For the information and direction of my successors, rectors of Fittleton: the

free chapel of Haxton was dissolved by virtue of an Act of Parliament made for that purpose in the first year of King Edward VI, and then seized upon with its endowment for the king's use [in] 1547. The incumbent (when this sacrilege was committed) was Mr John Blyth of the age of 43 years, and had assigned him by the king's Commissioners a poor pension for life of £3 5s pa. This free chapel stood in the orchard, now in the possession of William Pierce, and had a house and barn belonging to it, and ½ acre of glebe land lying in the Berry exactly westward from the orchard. The endowment belonging to this chapel was all the tithe corn and two parts of three parts of the tithe wool and lamb arising from the capital farm in Haxton, which at the time of the dissolution was in the possession of Sir Edward Darrell, now Abraham Gapper esq.

These impropriate tithes (commonly called the Portionary) being now a lay fee, and the owners of this farm from whence these tithes arise, having at several times since the dissolution purchased other lands in Haxton, the tithe whereof belongs to the rectory of Fittleton; and Henry Clerk esq, the late owner of this farm having exchanged lands with Sir Richard How and his tenants in Haxton, the tithe thereof is not exchanged. For these reasons I think it necessary, in order to prevent any future dispute, lawsuit or quarrel between my successors and the impropiator, that a true and perfect account be set down and given of those lands (commonly called the Odd Lands) whose tithe belongs to the rector, as distinct from the farm and no part of it, but lie dispersed in several furlongs through the common fields of Haxton. *Details of land included in the glebe terrier of that year are omitted as they have been published [see WRS vol 56 pp 177-179]*

8 Oct 1718. Roger Kay, rector, Henry Edes, impropiator, Joseph Barton, Thomas Lawes, William Piper, John Truckle (X), Henry Reeves.

The acre of Mr Barton's on the east side of the lynch which bounds the furlong of the farm Broadland, was an acre of the late Mr Clerk's Odd Land called Gages, the tithe of which was always the rector's. This I mention, lest anyone by mistake should think the bounds not rightly placed but taking that acre to be part of the farm Broadland, which it is not ('tis easy to be led into this mistake by reason of this acre joins to the farm and was commonly plowed with the farmland as if it were part of it). Of the truth hereof I have been very well assured by the ancient inhabitants of Haxton. Roger Kay.

At my first coming to Fittleton I made an agreement with my neighbours for their lambs at 2½ d a lamb or 2s 1d the tenth. If I had taken them in kind they had been worth more; my successor may do what he pleases; and so likewise he may as to the tithe of pigeons and pigs, which I have for the most part taken in money.

Whereas the singers of the parish church of Fittleton and Haxton have raised by subscription a sum of money sufficient for the building and erecting of a gallery in the church for the use of themselves and their successors being singers we therefore, the minister and churchwardens and inhabitants of Fittleton and Haxton do permit and allow of the erecting of a gallery in the church. In witness whereof we have at the vestry held for that purpose hereunto set our hands 31 May 1730: William Coster, curate, with the consent

of Mr Roger Kay, rector, Solomon Ranger, Thomas Lawes, churchwardens; Thomas Beach, John Ivy, W Fowle, Thomas Sop, John Bromham, Thomas Rolfe, John Coster, William Piper, Jacob Bromham, William Harris, Edward Ivy, Stephen Lawes, inhabitants.

Memo; if any differences should arise concerning the seats or sittings in the said gallery it is hereby agreed that the minister and churchwardens for the time being shall decide and put an end to all and every such difference.

Memo; the gallery was erected in the month of June 1730 and it cost £23; whereof Thomas Beach esq, Andrew Wither esq and Mr George Grinley gave £12, Sir Richard Howe, 2 guineas, Abraham Gapper esq 2 guineas, Revd Roger Kay, rector, 2 guineas and the remaining £4 14s was gave by the singers and other inhabitants of Fittleton.

Extract of the will of Revd Roger Kay MA, late rector of Fittleton, prebendary of Salisbury & sometime fellow of St John's College Cambridge, bearing date 10 Apr 1729, as far as it relates to the benefaction [*of a charity school*], 27 May 1729 William Coster curate of Fittleton. *See Ch Com Rep. Will proved 1731, TNA PROB 11/645*

General register, 1753-1812 (1094/2)

'1789 Stephen Lawes paide one shellings & six pence for Repairing his one seat next the parsons pue Being his property Be Longing to his hows the Clarks seat Being next out of Repair witness my hand Stephen Lawes Clark of this parish Thomas harris & William sotten Church wardens'

FONTHILL BISHOP

General register, 1769-1812 (1856/1)

Thurs 16 Mar 1775 Revd Richard Mant MA, master of the free grammar school in Southampton was collated by the bishop of Winchester to the living of Fonthill Bishop, void by the cessation of Revd Edmund Ferrers; he was inducted and took possession 26 Mar 1775.

FOVANT

General register, 1541-1705 (1425/1)

'William Lenard doctor of Divinity & parson of Fovant whoe changed this Mortal life for a Crowne of Immortalitye in the yeare of our lord god 1628, the 21 day of february was buried 23 day of march.' *1629 new style.*

Memo that the churchwardens, overseers and inhabitants of Fovant placed Henry Farly and his wife in a house and garden belonging to the place called the Moor, late in the possession of Richard Barter deceased; to have it for ever on the condition that he keeps Katherine Barter and Amy Barter, daughters of Richard in meat and drink, washing and lodging for one year. This condition is confirmed by a bond made 25 Jul 1696. William Macy, Gasper Strong, churchwardens, Mathew Cully, John Dyer, overseers, Thomas

Barford, rector, David Feltham, John Jarvis, David Humphreys, Osmund Martin, Andrew Andrews, Edward Nightingale, John Chappel, George Chappel, Thomas Carpenter.

General register, 1705-1812 (1425/2)

Fovant register which was begun April the 14th in the year 1705; Mr Robert Cary was then rector of the said parish of Fovant.

‘Time swiftly pasts away

And will for no man stays. Cito pede praetent actas’

Memo: Francis Kenton esq and Henrietta his wife (although no parishioners) gave to the parish church of Fovant a cloth of cloth and a cushion of velvet for the pulpit; and they gave likewise a cloth of cloth (*sic*), with a damask cloth and a napkin (the napkin was a damask one) for the communion table. These things were all put in their proper places on Easter day being 19th Apr 1747. This gentleman likewise placed a new weather cock on the tower. They both lived in Castle Street Salisbury.

NB at that time also John Clement MA and curate of Fovant gave a Common Prayer book for the use of the clerk.

Before the death of John White, clerk, who was incapable of performing his office and who died in 1701, Mr Canon Barford was rector of Fovant. But Mr Thomas Shaw at that time curate and officiating minister of Fovant made choice of John Petty for clerk of the parish according to the direction of canon 91. John Petty died 31 Oct 1735 and enjoyed the place near forty years. At the death of John Petty Mr Chancellor Thomas Eyre was rector of Fovant at that time made choice of John Day junior for clerk and put him in that office on 15 Jan 1736; according as canon 91 directs in that point. *Thomas Barford was prebendary of Yatesbury and a canon residentiary of Salisbury cathedral. Thomas Eyre was prebendary of Highworth. Canon 91 was one of the orders issued by the church authorities to regulate practice.*

FOXLEY

General register, 1713-1812 (592/1)

Churchwardens and overseers accounts, 1719-1720; census, 1811, see Local Censuses. These and the following notes are on paper pages stitched into the parchment register

4 Jun 1728 Copy of deed of augmentation of the rectory; gift by Judith Ayliffe of Foxley, spinster, sister of John Ayliffe deceased of Foxley of land valued at £ 20 pa; in return for which the Governors of the Queen Anne's Bounty give her £200; land consists of 6 closes of arable and meadow 35a 1r, viz; 2 closes called Pressmeads, 13a 2r bounded north by the highway from Foxley to Norton, south and west by a meadow of Sir Edward Gould, east by Frys close; 2 closes, arable and a plot of meadow, called Goodenoughs closes, 10a, one bounded on west by Frys close, north by the road from Foxley to Norton, east by the road to Malmesbury common, south by a meadow called Parsons Hole; the other abutts on south the road from Norton to

Malmesbury, on north Players St Foyn close, on west the road from Foxley to Malmesbury common, and on the east a meadow of Sir Edward Gould; one close called Trutt meadow, 6a, bounded west the road from Foxley to Malmesbury common, south Malmesbury common, east Jefferiss's meadow, north Players meadow; one close called Starveall, 5a 3r, bounded south, north and east Cowage farm, west a close of Sir Edward Gould. Given to Simon Crock rector and his successors.

Communion plate: 1 large flagon gilt with gold with the inscription; the Gift of Mrs Judith Ayliffe to the Parish of Foxley 1727; 1 gilt cup with same inscription; 1 gilt salver with the same inscription on the inner side of the rim; the arms of Ayliffe are on all.

FROXFIELD

General register, 1561-1751 (1635/1) *A gathering of two books bound together at the expense of Lewis Evans, vicar in 1822.*

Froxfield 1609 John Kimber wrote this book. *Title page.*

Widow Barbar is to pay every Good Friday during her natural life unto the poor of Froxfield, being her husband Robert Barbar deceased's gift, and to be delivered to the poor at the discretion of the churchwardens the sum of 2s: And after and at her decease her executor or administrator is to pay or deliver to two of the chiefest in the parish one cow or 40s, then at the choice of the said parishioners whether they will have the cow or the 40s.

Also there was given by one William Fabian in the year of our Lord 1611 by his last will and testament as a stock to remain for ever unto the poor of Froxfield and to be let and set by the churchwardens of Froxfield for ever for the best profit and gain as they shall choose for the same poor people. The sum of the which £3 was delivered by Henry Fabian, executor of the said William Fabian to Stephen Smyth the elder and Elyman Knap, then churchwardens. *Will proved 1611 TNA PROB11/117*

'What luck I had to come to such a place
Wherein the preist is had in such disgrace
Where any sorry one may serve so well
As one that doth ever so much excell.
But I impute it to this only chance
Art hath an enemy called Ignorance.
By Thomas Foster then vicar'

This original version on the first page of the second register, was obliterated by Farmer Henry Pike. It was subsequently re-written. Foster was vicar from 1666 possibly to 1686.

1727 In comodo successoris [*for the benefit of a successor*] J[ames] Serle MA vicar
The vicar is to be paid by the impropiator £28 pa and that quarterly. The churchyard belongs to the vicar. *Three lines obliterated.*

All Easter offerings are the vicar's due. *Two lines obliterated.*

Jun 1731 received for breaking the ground in the churchyard for a Quaker 6s 8d.

2 Feb 1732 the vicar received for breaking the ground in the church for Mr Dismore 10s.

24 Feb 1743 received of Sarah Dismore for leave to put a rail over her mother's grave 3s 4d.

18 Dec 1753 received of Mrs Savage for breaking ground in the churchyard 6s 8d.

9 Jul 1761 received of Mrs Wilkins for breaking ground in the churchyard for her daughter Elizabeth 6s 8d.

The fee for churching women on a week day is 2s 6d.

General register, 1752-1791 (1635/2)

Revd Thomas Brown, vicar died 26 Sep 1787: he was succeeded by Lewis Evans who was inducted 22 Mar 1788. But who, on account of the insolvency of his predecessor, could not obtain a single farthing for dilapidations, which were no inconsiderable extent.

12 Nov 1777 the curate received for breaking the ground in the churchyard for George Tomkyne esq of Marlborough £2 2s.

19 Feb 19 1778 the curate received for breaking the ground in the churchyard for Elias Ivy 10s 6d.

7 Jan 1784 received of Mrs Lloyd of the [*Froxfield*] Hospital for breaking ground in the churchyard for her son William 16s 8d.

General register, 1792-1812 (1635/3)

8 Aug 1798. The vicar put up the dial against the chapel in the hospital quadrangle. L(ewis) E(vans).

From a good number of medianal altitudes of the sun taken by a brass sextant of the best construction I found the latitude of the centre of the vicarage garden to be $51^{\circ} 24' 36''$. L(ewis) E(vans). 18 Dec 1798. *A further detailed memo records that between 29 May and 23 Jul 1821 Evans MA FRS had an observatory built against the east gable of a cottage on the SW side of the vicarage garden into which an astronomical circle, made by Edward Troughton of London was placed, on a large Bath freestone, and a transit clock, made by Robert Knowles Barton, a native of Prescott, Lancs, but settled in Hungerford, Berks, was hung. From which he gained a most accurate reading of the position of the observatory. In Nov 1821 he had a stall stable, chaise house and straw house built, a cast iron pump set up, and the path to the privy paved, all at his own expense. In Aug 1824 a drain was laid from the pump along the path that abutted the road.*

FUGGLESTONE

General register, 1654-1674 (930/2)

John Adlam clerk and register, 1659.

General register, 1674-1747 (930/3)

The names of the benefactors of the gallery at Fugglestone St Peter, 5 Apr 1724:

Mr William Moore 2; Edward Alexander; Joel Doubty; Stephen Fisher; Daniel Bennett; Thomas Butcher; John Tabor; Richard Haskell; William Elliott; Richard Draysher; Solomon Butcher 2; John Mackarell clerk; John Churchell; John Couzence; Phillip Harford; Aaron Smith; John Marven 2; William Butcher; Phillip Stone; John Smith; William Smith; John Adlam; James Grace; Joseph Barter; William Few; Thomas Davidge; John Tanner; Benjamin Carter; Richard Swetman; John Thomson.

John Mackarell, clerk 22 Jun 1731, [*John Mackerell was buried 21 Jun 1731, suggesting a succession of clerks with the same name*]; Thomas Davidge clerk, 29 Apr 1764; William Wiles clerk, 25 May 1788. *A mid 18th century hand in the earlier register [930/2] lists Thomas Smith, William Mathews and John Mackarell as clerks.*

FYFIELD

Marriage register, 1754-1812 (1079/44)

Memo by Nicholas Pope, [parish] clerk; in the year 1799 the harvest began Sep 2nd and ended Dec 14th just fifteen weeks.

In 1801 the gallon loaf was sold for 3s 5½ d.

GREAT BEDWYN

General register, 1538-1635 (1836/1)

'The 21st daye of december in the two and fowrtithe yere of the raigne of our most gracious soveraigne Ladie Queene Elizabeth and in the yere of our Lord God 1600 Nicholas Crouche entured the clarkeship of the parishe of great Bedwin since whiche tyme nothinge have binne omitted or lefte oute of this Register booke. *The following year a single baptism is recorded.*

Memo that the present 9 Jun [1611] 'being Sunday William Slatear, in the time of devine service publiquely shewed and read his testimonial of his subscription and the book of articles iuxta forma stat' in ea parte edit' declaring & testifying his unfayned assent to the same, which his assencion of the defence and mayntenance therof to the uttermost of his endeavour & power. In the presence of us the churchwardens and others there present who do testifie the same, James Stonehouse, John Williams, Nicholas Crowche.'

General register, 1637-1653 (1836/2)

Declarations by John Bushell renouncing the Oath of the Solemn League and Covenant, 25 Mar 1675-1679. Same by William Bryde, 25 Mar 1680.

22 Apr 1678; Thomas Collins, Thomas Bushell, churchwardens; charge £22 3s 7d; disbursements £19 14s 9d; in hand £2 8s 10d. Churchwardens then chosen Thomas Blandy, Robert Broad. Giles Keele, Edward Hall, Edward Annetts, William Tarrant, overseers; charge £146 9s 8d; disbursements £144 16s 9d; in hand £1 13s 1d. New overseers Francis Savage, William Smith,

Samuel Hatt or his tenant, Richard Flory junior. Witnesses John Savage, William Byrde, Edward Savage, Benjamin Farrendon, John Durnford, Richard Sutton, John Piper.

General register, 1653-1681 (1836/3)

29 Oct 1653 Mr Soloman Ranger clerk sworn as parish register before William Blissett. *Soloman Ranger, minister, was buried 17 Jan 1654.*

25 Feb 1654 Robert Weebb sworn as parish register in place of Soloman Ranger deceased before William Blissett.

Memo 15 Nov 1661 Mr [Nathaniel] Sanders vicar of Little Bedwyn did induct Mr Robert Billings into the vicarage of Great Bedwyn in the presence of us, Thomas Surton, Giles Beele, Francis Savage, Robert Webb. *Names in the same hand.*

General register, 1716-1749 (1836/5)

Book purchased 5 Jul 1716, £1 14s.

Copy of a faculty for Charles Belcher of Savernake Forest to erect a monument with rails on a piece of ground 12ft square in the churchyard on the south side of the chancel near the door, 9 Apr 1734. Certificate of the copy, 9 Jul 1734 John Arnold vicar, Thomas Cannon, Daniel Bushell.

General register, 1749-1812 (1836/6)

Notes on the history of the church, benefactions, list of incumbents, charities etc, by John Ward vicar, made between 1832-1842

Memo by William Harrison, vicar that in 1753 the parish officers sought to raise the poor rate on Tottenham Park, the seat of Lord Bruce, with the demesne lands and woods situated in this parish. Mr Ralf, on behalf of Lord Bruce, appealed to the Quarter Sessions at Devizes where the rate was reduced from £440 to £150 pa; which rate continued until 1760; when upon my application to lord Bruce, at the request of many respectable parishioners his lordship agreed to be rated at £200 pa. I thought myself obliged to enter in this place for the information of the future inhabitants of the parish.

Benefactions to the church: The furniture of the pulpit, reading desk and clerk's seat were given by Thomas Coates and William Woodley esquires, the representatives of the borough in 1763. The pulpit etc was erected at the sole expense of the vicar in the same year.

GREAT CHALFIELD

General register 1545-1812 (1605/2)

The church was set in good repair 1719; the roof was new laid and a large buttress set up on the north side, and the body of the church was new ceiled; John Lewis, rector, Thomas Miles, churchwarden. The chancel was set in good repair 1722, cost £3 5s 8d; John Lewis, rector. The chancel was again

repaired 1747, [cost] £4 4s 8d; John Lewis, rector. The floor of the church was raised 1ft 8in and new laid, new forms were set up and the whole church white limed and painted and a canopy placed over the pulpit 1765; Clement Glynn, rector, T Miles, churchwarden. The chancel was again repaired, the roof new laid and ceiled, the floor raised 1ft 3in and the seats painted 1765, cost £15 14s; C Glynn, rector, T Miles churchwarden.

GREAT CHEVERELL

General register, 1653-1671 (207/1)

Henry Cole alias Nubery of Great Cheverell sworn as parish register before Edward Michell, 9 Feb 1654.

General register, 1671-1754 (207/2)

11 Apr 1671 received then of Mr William Gough of Erlestoke the sum of £40 which sum was a legacy given by his father, Mr Edward Gough rector of this parish deceased, to remain stock for the poor. I say received by me Henry Wright rector.

Notes by Nathaniel Shute, rector; including one following copy of glebe terrier, 1677, published in WRS vol 56 p78.

Acknowledgement by Henry Bruges of Great Cheverell, gent, of the custody of £5, the interest to be paid every Good Friday to the overseers of the poor, 10 Apr 1690, Nathaniel Shute rector, William Somner. This obligation was made because his wife and daughter Jane, were buried in linen contrary to the Act [*For burials in Woollen*].

Memo Thomas Harris Bruges is indebted to the poor of the parish in the sum of £4 10s, 40s of which sum being the gift of Jane Harris widow to the poor, the remainder, 50s, due to them from her executor as a penalty for being buried in linen. The interest being 6% being 5s 3d I received 14 Apr 1693. Nathaniel Shute, [rector].

<Memo that Thomas Andrews of the parish, shoemaker, received £4 of Mr Shute 16 Apr 1688, being the gift of Edward Gough and Priscilla Meriweather to the poor of the parish for which he has promised to pay at the rate of 6% interest upon every Good Friday, during the time he keeps it in his hands>. *Struck through possibly on the repayment of the loan.*

And likewise William Alexander of this parish has in his possession the like sum of £4 for the use of the poor, the interest of which at the same rate he is to pay at the same time. The said sum is now, 7 Apr 1694, in the hands of Henry Hammond, Devizes, bookseller, which he received of Thomas Andrewes.

<14 Apr 1693 Mr Thomas Bruges paid 6s, being the interest due of £5 due to the poor but not for the 40s given by his grandmother>.

Due to the poor from Mr Henry Bruges, 7 Apr 1699, £5 the interest yearly 6s; from Mr T Bruges £4 10s interest 5s 3d; from William Alexander £4 interest 4s 8d; from Henry Hammond £4 interest 4s 8d. Total of the interest £1 7d.

Robert Heath was chosen and appointed clerk of this parish by me Nathaniel Shute, rector, 26 Mar 1694.

A parcel (about a gallon) of Roman copper coins of the emperors from Gordianus to Tacitus was found in the field called The Lands by Edward Hobbs, Feb 1695. *Gordianus, emperor, AD 238-244; Tacitus, emperor, AD 275-276.*

The names of the persons in the year 1700 who have right in the common of Great Cheverell with the number of the yardlands and beast leases in the said common with the value and the common valued at 6s 2d per acre:

Nathaniel Shute, rector 1 yardland; William Sumner 4; Henry and Thomas Bruges, gents 7½; Alice Smith 2; Thomas Axford 2; Thomas Axford free land ½; John Hampton 1; William Bertlett 1; John Mattock senior 1; John Mattock junior 1½; John Aylor 1; Robert Amor 1; Emme Oram widow 1; Robert Potter ½; William Potter ½; Thomas Andrewes ½; Thomas Amor ½; Susan Curtis widow ½; Martha Bishop widow ½; Edward Mattock ½; Edward Cleve ½; William Alexander ½; Elizabeth Newbury ¼; William Dalmore ½; John Windsmore 0; Elizabeth Fardham 0. In all 30. Beast leases 214. Valued at £107.

Every yardland has 7 beast leases belonging to it: Every beast lease per annum valued at 10s: Beast leases belonging to some persons over and above the yardlands; Thomas Axford 1; Mrs Fardham 1; John Windsmore 1. The content of the whole common is 349 acres: there is abated for highways 11 acres 2 rods; for feeding of the crofts 9 acres 1 rod 22 perches. The content to be divided 346 acres 3 rods 22 perches. There are allotted to the two Mr Bruges for their right of feeding in the common 85 acres 6 perches. By which proportion every yardland, if the common be further enclosed, will have assigned to it 11 acres 1 rod 15 perches, every half 5 acres 2 rods 27 perches.

Whereas in the late enclosure of the common made by Mr Shute and others, in his proportion of ground assigned to him there is taken in some part of Robert Amor's ollet plot. These are to certify that in consideration of the same Nathaniel Shute, for himself and his successors, agreed to allow 8d pa, 7 Jun 1709; and on the same day did pay to Praxy, the widow of the deceased Robert, 4s, being in full for 6 years that are past. Nathaniel Shute.

The second bell now in the steeple was added to the four in 1698 and given to the use of this parish, being first purchased by the contributions of these following inhabitants: Mr Nathaniel Shute, rector £5; Mr James Townsend £5; Mr Henry Bruges £2 10s; Mr Thomas Bruges £2 10s; Mr William Somner £2 10s. Total £17 10s; Widow Alice Smith 10s; John Hampton 10s; Robert Potter 5s; William Alexander 10s; Francis Axford 2s 6d; Mr French 5s; Richard Tyely 2s 6d; John Kill 2s 6d; Edward Hobbes 2s 6d; John Hayward 2s 6d; John Mattock junior 10s; John Andrewes 5s; Thomas Axford 5s; James Notton 2s 6d; Paul Hampton 2s 6d; Mr William Townesend 5s; Robert Amor 5s; William Bertlett 5s; ringers money 16s. Total £5 8s 6d
Weight of the bell ?499lb.

I stocked the Great mead with 4 cows at Michaelmas and don't see why the rectors should not stock it every Michaelmas with 7 cows, the glebe being a yardland. W[alter] Frost.

Upon the death of John Potter, clerk and sexton I appointed James Smith to succeed him in both offices, 25 May 1746. W[alter] Frost, rector.

An account of the several places and seats in the parish church of Great Cheverell taken 10 Apr 1704:

The mens' seats in the south side of the church; 1 Robert Amor, Thomas Axford; 2 Mr Somner's seat for his freehold and leasehold; 3 John Mattock junior, William Potter, Mr Somner for Knap and Huddens tenement; 4 John Potter, Mr Jones, John Andrews, John Ayler.

The mens' seats on the north side; 1 Mr Bruges' seat to the Farm and Coles; 2 Mr Townesend's seat with the seat next adjoining in the aisle; 3 Mr Townesend two places to the farm and Pyleaze, John Mattock and John Winsmore; 4 Mr Bruges one place to the farm, two more and John Smith one; 5 William Dalmer, Coopers and Helliens tenements.

In the aisle; 1 James Alexander, John Aylor, for Georges tenement; 2 William Bartlett two places, Edward Coles alias Newbury; 3 William Alexander, James Bishopp and John Hampton; 4 In the long seat by the north door Robert Potter, Robert Lawrence, Giles Mattock, Thomas Andrews, Edward Mattock two places, Joseph Compton, Mr Somner, Elizabeth Mattock, Gardhams.

In the gallery; in the front seat Mr Townsend, John Hampton. In the middle seat John Mattock senior; in the back seat John Ayler, Edward -. *This section not completed.*

Women's seats on the southside: 1 Gardhams, Robert Amor, William Potter, John Aylor; 2 John Potter, Giles Mattock, Coles, Edward Hobbs; 3 Mr Bruges' seat to the farm and Coopers and Georges; 4 John Mattock junior, William Dalmer, Helliens and Bulls; 5 Edward Mattock, John Winsmore, John Hampton, and James Alexander.

Women's seats on the north side: 1 William Bartlett one place, John Mattock senior two places, and Doggetts; 2 Robert Potter, Knapp living, Edward Mattock and James Bishopp; 3 Mr Somner, Mr Bruges two places, and William Bartlett; 4 John Smith, Mr Jones, Deborah >Edward< Coles widow and Thomas Amor; 5 Huddens, John Mattock junior, John Andrews and Thomas Axford; 6 Mr Somner for his freehold, William Alexander, Thomas Andrews and Pyleaze; 7 Mr Townsend's seat to his Farm.

Memo the lowest seat on the south side (number 6) having been the seat of Mr Townsend, he does hereby consent that the same shall for ever hereafter remain and be to the use of the poor of the parish.

Walter Frost was inducted into the church, 28 Jul 1731

General register, 1741-1812 (207/3)

On Thursday Oct 23 1766 about 10 o'clock in the evening, my neighbour in the house inhabited by the late James Bartlett, sent his new born son to my house by his nurse to be privately baptised, insisting I should make him a christian immediately, as the child was ill (he said), and the nurse confirmed

the same. The boy was named George; but my neighbour would not let me know his own christian and surname, nor the name of the babe's mother, though I requested it once and again by message, in order to be enabled (I informed him) to register the baptism. I'm told my neighbour has once or twice only (since he has been in my parish about six months) declared his name to be William Woodeston or Wooddeson, and his servant, by whom he had the child, went by the name of Jane or Jinny, but of her surname I never could learn anything. As I thought myself obliged to register the infant in my church book, I thought it not improper to account for my manner of entrance there. W[alter] Frost. *Pasted onto the inside cover.*

GREAT SOMERFORD

General register, 1707-1812 (2051/2)

Memo that on 19 Apr 1707 the register book of Great Somerford was burned with the house of Edward Cutts, the parish clerk: And all that would enquire for any person's age beyond that time may apply themselves to the register office at Sarum. *i.e. the bishops' registry for the bishops transcripts. A list of the ages of some people as they were given by their friends after the loss of the last register by fire. Name, parents and date of birth stated.*

4 Mar 1724: The bounds on the north and west sides of the churchyard of Great Somerford being decayed, and Mr John Smith being obliged (as proprietor of the messuage near adjoining to the churchyard, and of the farm thereunto belonging), to maintain the said bounds: And being willing to erect a stone wall in place of the former pale bounds; the same was this day viewed by the rector and churchwardens and Mr Smith. And it does appear unto them that the inside of the new wall, on the north side, ought to stand in a straight line, equal to the inside of the posts of the old pale: And that the wall on the west side shall stand in a straight line, so as to leave six feet in the clear between the inside of the wall and the outer extremity, two feet above ground of the buttress on the north west corner of the tower. And that Mr Smith, his heirs and assigns, shall hereafter maintain the walls; and that all the land within the walls belongs to the churchyard. Done in the presence of Nicholas Fenn rector of Little Somerford, Thomas Earle vicar of Malmesbury, Richard Copson rector of Brinkworth, William Twentiman, rector of Stanton St Quinton, Isaac Reeks, rector [*of Great Somerford*], Jasper Pyke and Thomas Lenord, churchwardens, Thomas Powell, Francis Skull, William Alexander, Henry Pyke.

Memo 12 Sep 1728 Thomas Seale MA was inducted into the rectory of Great Somerford by Nicholas Fen LLD rector of Little Somerford.

GREAT WISHFORD

General register, 1558-1647 (1160/1)

'There is in the bode of the church a Monument, an auncient Monument, of some of the Ancestors of the Bonhams; and said to bee that Bonham and

his wife that had Seven Children at one birth; the Inscription of the tombe is that follows word for word:

Hic iacet Thomae Bonham armigero quondam patronus istius Ecclesiae, qui quidem Thomas obiit vicesimo nono die Maii Anno Dom' 1473 et Editha uxor eius, quae quadem Editha obiit vicesimo sexto die Aprilis Anno Dom' 1469 Quorum animabus propitiatur deus. Amen. *Here lies Thomas Bonham esq, patron of this church, who died 29 May 1473 and Edith his wife who died 26 Apr 1469. May God have mercy on their souls.*

They were both buried under the great Marble stone in the old alley of our church and this inscription was cutt in brasse Beneath that inscription in the lower end of the said marble stone toward the choire there were the smale statues or images of nine younge children set in brasse all which I myselfe knew standinge there about twentie yeares; but of late one of them is broaken out of the stone by meanes of some violence and negligence of them that wrought in the church and laid a great quarrey stone uppon the grave of Robert Hillman, lately buried: the statues of the said Thomas & Edith Bonham are said to ly in a hollowe vaulted Arch under the wall on the <west> >north< side of our church. And such statues indeed there are. His statue lies next to the doore on the said side and her statue at the Feet of his. By mee Roger Powell, curate there, Aprill the 10th Anno dom' 1640'.

General register, 1653-1747 (1160/2)

Richard Beare of Great Wishford, carpenter, sworn as parish register before Edward Tooker, 22 Nov 1653.

William Sealy rector 1692. *Robert Parker rector was buried 1 Mar 1692.*

The first stone for building the school house was laid by Sir Richard Howe, the sole founder, 18 Jun 1722. *Mr Thomas Woodward buried 18 Dec 1721; schoolmaster added in pencil. Thomas Shergold [buried 1 May 1734]*

General register, 1748-1816 (1160/3)

Parish clerks: J Bennett; Henry Shergold 1748 [*buried 1768*]; Richard Baker 30 Oct 1768 [*buried 1770*]; Mark Baker, parish clerk, 6 May 1770.

GRITTLETON

General register, 1573-1812 (1620/1) *A gathering of parts of three books and a draft register bound together by Canon John Jackson with a copy of his History of Grittleton, published in 1843*

Roger Huckings of Grittleton sworn as parish register before William Shute, 3 Dec 1653.

Nicholas Bees of Grittleton sworn as parish register before Nicholas Greene, 14 Jun 1658. *Described as the clerk of the parish aged 87 or 88 in his burial record 5 Jun 1687.*

Thomas Tullit was presented to the rectory by Mr George Jaques, patron Jun 1657

Thomas Tullit bought the perpetual advowson of the rectory of Mr George Jaques and Elias Terry, executors to Mr Richard Jaques, son of George Jaques, patron, Jun 1674. 'O lord give allwaies to this church pasters according to thine own heart, apt to teach, & examples to the flock, for Christ his sake, amen' In the year 1674 were five persons buried viz Robert Shipway, his wife, John Bullock, widow Pockeridge, Widow Bulock of Clapcot, whose ages together made at least 420, to which add Giles Wyles of Grittleton, the six make amongst them 500 years.

Thomas Barker, fellow of Lincoln college, Oxford, was inducted into the rectory by Revd John Jackson, vicar of Hullavington, 17 Aug 1719.

Edith Sargent, Stephen Miller, William Scot, Mary May, Daniel Greenman, Miss Huntley, William Collins, Mr Norris, Mr Walker of Badminton, Spencer of Malmesbury, <Baily of Steynton [*Stanton St Quintin*] >, Banning, Christopher Marvel, Roger & Elizabeth Warne, Milo Smith & the Taylor, Mr Lake the bookseller, William Thomas. *A list in the hand of Thomas Barker rector compiled c 1740 in a draft register.*

John Pollock, aged 5 years, died 9 Feb, buried 15 Feb 1788. Note his body is deposited with that of Betty Pollock, an infant, buried may 1771, in the lowest sill of the freestone graves under the rector's pew on the south west corner of the chancel; each grave (there being two) is constructed to hold three full sized coffins with freestone covers, and that now used is in that next the south wall. TP [*Thomas Pollock, rector*]

HAM

General register, 1720-1782 (508/1)

Note about the bequest of John Hunt gent, will dated 23 Jul 1714, of £20 to the rector and churchwardens for stock for the poor. *Part cut away.* To be dispersed by the consent of the major number of the inhabitants; to be declared at their meeting in the vestry having two days notice at least given in the church on any Sunday morning after divine service. *Will proved 1720 P1/6Reg/222.*

Mr Phillip Hayward was inducted into the rectory on 2 May 1719 by Revd Mr Jacob, vicar of Chute; who succeeded Revd Richard Gillingham, a gentleman of very excellent character and other Christian virtues.

Acknowledgment that bequests of £500 and £400 (being the value of his household goods) by Revd Richard Gillingham for apprenticing poor children of orthodox clergy, as confirmed by deeds of 14 Feb 1721 and 10 Apr 1723, have been paid by John Rawlinson and William James, trustees, to the governors of the charity for the relief of poor widows and children of the clergy, 23 Jun 1723. I Latimer Cross, vicar of Kintbury, Berkshire, officiating at Ham in the absence of Mr Phillip Hayward on the above date did peruse

the wordings mentioned in the said memorandum. Thomas Mundy, Robert Stevens, Humphrey Cooper, Abraham Shearman. *Will proved 1719 TNA PROB 11/658.*

Memo 7 Jul 1744 H Stephens vicar of Hungerford was inducted into the rectory of Ham, vacant by the death of Revd Mr Philip Hayward, who succeeded in the rectory Revd Mr Richard Gillingham on 2 May 1719.

HANKERTON

General register, 1699-1775 (2050/1)

Memo 21 Jun 1756 Paid Mr Turner Cirencester £1 11s 2d.

HANNINGTON

General register, 1571-1792 (1819/2)

Elizabeth Teling was apprehended the 12 May and had a licence to go home to Ashe for six days. *Mid 17th century.*

1639 our bells of this church were cast into five, being before three; they were first placed in the tower and rung 31 Dec 1639. The work was done by the industry of John Stubbs MA, vicar and Humphry Yorke, cooperator. The weight of the new bells: the treble, 5cwt 9lb; the second 5cwt 11lb; the third 6cwt 2lb; the fourth 7cwt 3qtr 15lb; the fifth 10cwt 2qtr 7lb. The figure of 3 in the weight of the fourth signifies $\frac{3}{4}$ cwt; and likewise the figure of two in the weight of the tenor stands as $\frac{1}{2}$ cwt. Understand that every hundred of bell metal is ...

But at the charge of the parish £40 free gift of Mr Rauf Freke and Mr William Freke, lords of the manor, the sons of Sir Thomas Freke, who continued and perfected the enclosures here, which have proved greatly advantageous to all parties concerned therein. William Freke.

Memo that Sir Thomas Freke proffered the parishioners to set up the church, at his sole charge, on the hill in the midst of the town if they would have carried it.

References to the enclosure of land in the parish in 1629 and 1632. The offer to move the church in to the village was conditional on the materials of the old church being re-used.

Mr James Crouch [vicar] sworn as parish register before Robert Hippisley. *nd 1653x1654.*

1658 A new vicarage house was erected and built up by Mr Rauf Freke, lord of the manor of Hannington and James Crouch vicar.

Records of the inductions of priests into the vicarage of Hannington:

William Combe MA by James Woodbridge rector of Stanton Fitzwarren,

17 Jan 1629: Witnesses; Thomas Stubbes; Jeffry Pinnell (X), Walter Weston (X), Thomas Savery senior (X), William Harper senior (X), William Marsh. John Stubbes BA by as above, 8 Apr 1630; Thomas Mathew, Thomas Saverye, John Batson, Walter Weston (X), Thomas Savery (X), William Ballow (X), Richard Weston (X), Thomas Stubbes, Frederick Hyde, John Woodbridge, Giles Franklin.

James Crouch MA by Thomas Hotchkis, rector of Stanton Fitzwarren, 4 Feb 1651; John Saunders (X), William Marsh, churchwardens, Robert Savery, Richard Weston (X), Richard Marshe (X), William Weston, John Batson, Edward Pinnell.

Robert Crouch MA by as above, 22 Nov 1660; James Crouch clerk, Robert Savery, Thomas Shurmor, Thomas Savery, William Weston senior, John Batson; Thomas Brookman, William Weston churchwardens.

John Freke MA by Richard Green rector of Blunsdon St Andrew, 7 Nov 1668; Thomas Savery, William Yorke; John Haines, George Greenhill churchwardens.

Richard Brodrepp MA by Thomas Hotchkis rector of Stanton Fitzwarren, 11 Oct 1681; Rauf Freke, Judith Austen, John Batson, John Jenkins

Benjamin Young BA by as above, 11 Jul 1685; John Haines, John Batson, Richard Deverell, Edward Acott, Richard Wither (X)

Thomas Haywood BD by John Berrow vicar of Inglesham, 20 Aug 1709; Walter Parker, Francis Parker, Edmund Plomer senior churchwarden, Edmund Plomer junior.

Nicholas Ridgway MA by as above, 3 Nov 1711; William Weston churchwarden, Joseph Gerring.

Christopher Twynhoe BA by William Palmer, vicar of Stratton St Margaret, 18 Jan 1714; Henry Curtis churchwarden, Joseph Gering, Richard Deverell

Richard Burton MA by Peter C[ogauld] de Santee rector of Blunsdon St Andrew, 19 Jun 1721; Rauf Freke, William Weston churchwarden.

Anthony Morse MA by Henry Evans curate of Lydiard Tregoze, 3 Feb 1737; Samuel Peters churchwarden, Samuel Day.

John Bilstone MA by James Ayscough vicar of Highworth, 5 Aug 1738; Rauf Freke.

John Leyson BA by S Adams clerk, 9 Apr 1767; William Freke, C Headington, William Cole.

Thomas Buller BLL by Clement Headington, 6 Apr 1775; John Daws William Cole, Clement Headington junior, William Freke.

John Jenkins 1 yardland; Widow Saunders $\frac{1}{2}$ yardland; Robert Bolton 1 yardland; Thomas Savery of Wick 1 yardland; William Harper 1 yardland; Thomas Mathew $2 \frac{1}{2}$ yardlands; Walter Bolton 1 yardland; Stert farm 2 yardlands; William Plumer 2 yardlands; Walter Weston $1 \frac{3}{4}$ yardlands; Widow Yorke 1 yardland; William Harper 1 yardland; William Bolton $\frac{1}{2}$ yardland; Brinds $\frac{1}{2}$ yardland; Widow Saunders $\frac{1}{2}$ yardland; John Batson 1 yardland; Humphrey Yorke $\frac{1}{2}$ yardland; Richard March $\frac{1}{2}$ yardland; the vicar $\frac{1}{2}$ yardland; church stile; Thomas Savery 2 yardlands; the ditch of Court close. All these are measured after the longer measure on the tower wall. To every yardland two

measures are allotted. *Undated but c 1670; this is an assessment for the repair of the churchyard pale.*

A note of the churchyard mound for Hannington in Wilts which was approved for truth by several of the inhabitants there 25 of Aug 1685: Beginning at the south east corner around west to the north east:

A parcel of wall belonging to the mill has a yardland, formerly Plomers; Mr Heylins $1\frac{1}{2}$ yd; Widow Yorcke 1yd; Thomas Shurmur $1\frac{1}{2}$ yd; William Marshe 2yd; Berrymans $1\frac{1}{2}$ yd; John Batson 1yd; Edward Pinell 2yd; Mr Batson $3\frac{3}{4}$ yd; Thomas Savery at the pound $2\frac{1}{2}$ yd reach to the great gate in Pisworth; From the great gate along beyond the little door against the belfry Mr Freke repairs; Williers 1yd; John Haynes 1yd; Widow Becketts $1\frac{1}{2}$ yd; John Edwards 1 yd; Richard Clarke 1yd; Robert Savery's copyhold 1yd marked with RS; William Harper 1yd; Thomas Mathews $2\frac{1}{2}$ yd; Richard Bolton 1 yd; Widow Saunders $\frac{1}{4}$ yardland which is at the north west corner and starts; makes up the part that comes up to the corner on the north for 2 yardlands; Widow Plomers 2 yardlands start on the north going eastwards; William Weston $1\frac{3}{4}$ yd; Widow Yorke 1 yd; John Batson 1yd; John Saunders $\frac{1}{2}$ yardland; Humphry Yorke $\frac{1}{2}$ yd; Anthony Strange $\frac{1}{2}$ yd; Mr Freke for part of Harpers $\frac{1}{2}$ yd; Mr Freke for Brinds $\frac{1}{2}$ yd; George Scovell 1yd; the vicars' a little part being about $3\frac{1}{2}$ ft is joining to the stile but the parish is to repair the stile as also the great gate in Pisworth; Robert Savery's freehold is between the stile and the north east corner. This was approved in the year above mentioned by us whose names are here written; Richard Brodrepp, vicar, Edmund Morgan, Nicholas Batson, churchwardens, Thomas Shermur measured it.

An account of the churchyard mounds for Hannington Wilts approved of by us whose names are hereunto set this first day of June 1747:

All these against the church on the south side; $3\frac{3}{4}$ yd to the yardland; Plomer for themill, now Mr Hardiman $\frac{1}{2}$ yardland; Henry Curtis for Heylins $1\frac{1}{2}$ yardlands; Widow York, now Robinson 1 yardland; Thomas Shermer $1\frac{1}{2}$ yardlands; William Marsh now Mr Proby 2 yardlands; Berymans now Mr Freke $1\frac{1}{2}$ yardlands; John Batsons now Mr Freke $1\frac{1}{2}$ yardlands; Edward Pinnel now Mr Gering 2 yardlands; Mr Batson now Mr Freke $1\frac{1}{2}$ yardlands; Thomas Savery, the pound comes to the great gate in Pisworth Mr Virgil Parker for Saverys $2\frac{1}{2}$ yardlands; the great gate in Pisworth repaired by the parish; and from thence 33yd repaired by Mr Freke:

All those on the west 3yd to a yardland; Williers, Mrs Lord >now Freke< 1 yardland; John Hains, Michael Haines 1 yardland; Widow Beckett's, Giles Edmunds $1\frac{1}{2}$ yardlands; John Edwards, Margaret Clark 1 yardland; Richard Clark, Thomas Shermer 1 yardland; Robert Savery copy[hold], Mrs Proby 1 yardland; William Harper, Walter Parker 1 yardland; Thomas Mathews, Mrs Mathews $1\frac{1}{2}$ yardlands; Richard Clarke 1 yardland; Richard Bolton, Walter Edwards 1 yardland; William Saunders $\frac{1}{4}$ yardland.

All those from the north west corner to the north east corner 3yd to a yardland: lord Weymouth for Steart 2 yardlands; Widow Plomer now Mr Freke 2 yardlands; William Weston now Elizabeth Read widow $1\frac{3}{4}$ yardlands; Widow

York now Robinson 1 yardland; John Batson now Mr Freke 1 yardland; John Saunders, Mrs Mathews ½ yardland; Humphrey York, William York ½ yardland; Anthony Strainge, Mr Freke ½ yardland; Mr Freke for part of Harpers ½ yardland; Mr Freke for Brinds ½ yardland; Mr Freke for Scovels 1 yardland: The vicar about 3 ½ ft in length; The stile and the great gate in Pisworth belongs to the parish; Robert Savery's freehold is between the stile and the north east corner, now Morgans from the great gate in Pisworth to Williers repaired by Mr Freke, containing 33yd: All the east side belongs to Mr Freke to repair. Measured by us Michael Haines, Henry Curtis, William York; Richard Hows, Thomas Steilles churchwardens.

23 Jun 1731 a new cloth for the communion table, pulpit and reading desk was bought. Samuel Peters, Giles Edmonds, churchwardens.

General register, 1792-1812 (1819/3)

1714 the chapel at Hannington Wick was erected by Thomas Freke esq, lord of the manor.

1723 the vicarage house was pulled down and rebuilt by Thomas Burton, vicar.

1726 the vicarage ground was planted with quickset and the mound at the bottom made and the grove below planted. *These notes were made about 1845, possibly from pages in the earlier register that are no longer extant.*

HARDENHUISH

General register, 1731-1812 (1186/1)

1 Apr 1804 William Woodman commenced clerk of Hardenhuish.

HEDDINGTON

General Register, 1538-1773 (602/1)

Richard Gardiner is my name. Christophe Charles Hide and so be it. *Written by the baptisms for 1541 and 1542 respectively, in the hand in which the register was written probably in 1599.*

Memo John Atkins clerk was instituted and inducted into the rectory of the parish of Heddington 27 March being the Saturday 'seenight' before Easter 1590, the morrow being the next lords day before Easter, he read the articles of Christian religion agreed upon by the Chuch of England in the Convocation house, in the presence of Hugh Webbe, rector of Bromham. Witnesses: Henry Rogers, Robert Scott, John Scot, John Frailing, Richard Lanfire, John Townsend of Stockley, Richard Hayward, William Pritchett. *A note by a baptism on 21 Apr 1605 explains that it took place in Bromham 'because our Minister Mr Ackins was deprived of his benefice.'*

Memo Robert Rogers BA was instituted and inducted into the rectory of

Heddington by William Mortimer vicar of Calne 18 day of July 1605, and on the Lord's day next following he read the articles of Christian religion agreed upon in the Convocation held at London in 1562 in the time of divine Service in the presence of the whole assembly of the parish of Heddington as can witness these underwritten; William Townsend, John Long, Richard Lanfere, Andrew Townsend, William Prichard, John Scott, Robert Scott, Robert Child, Robert Oldfield, Henry Rogers, John Pearce. *Names in the same hand.*

1599 Thomas Pritchett, son of William Pritchett 'being a Journeyman in Newbery [*Newbury, Berkshire*] was beaten by his master one Cycill and other in his house and when he was come home to his father's house he languishing within a sennight [*week*] died and was buried the 18th Oct.'

1603 John son of John Allen & Eleanor his wife '(the parents travelling homeward after they had bin taken & whipt as sturdy beggers according to the statute) was born here in the churchhouse 5th mar being Easter Monday at night & baptised the next daie being tuesdaie the 6th mar'

1603 a great pestilence in London, Norwich and diverse other places, and a great fast commanded by the king's authorities; begun some month before Michaeltide [*Michaelmas 29 Sep*]. *A note by a baptism on 5 Oct states that this was the fourth day of the fast.*

1605 This year was revealed a great treason invented by the papists to destroy the parliament House.

1607 this year was the great frost after which a great dearth both in this year and the next year.

1610 burial of a 'Welch' man travelling from Reading into Glamorganshire, having 12s of money about him was found very sick in a lease by the highway side called Sandy Lane from whence being conveyed to a sheep house died there and was buried here 21 Oct, no man knowing his name. *Possibly a drover: Several burials of travellers are recorded indicating the importance of the road to Bath which ran through the parish.*

Mr [Robert] Rogers minister buried 21 Jul 1641. Henry Rogers of Etchinghampton succeeded. His relation Ed Ernlie of the same place had lately purchased this advowson of Heddington for him who married Sarah daughter of [-] Eyles esq of Brome House near Devizes. *This added in a later hand after the burial record. Robert Rogers signed bishops transcripts up to 1632.*

HEYTESBURY

General register, 1653-1812 (859/2)

Phillip Everett of Heytesbury sworn as parish register before Edward Michell, 17 Oct 1653.

Mathew Badder of Heytesbury sworn as parish register before John Ridout, 1 Oct 1656.

'Wee whose names are hereunto subscribed the minister & churchwardens of the parish of Heytesbury in the county of Wilts do Humblie Certifie the Right worshipfull his Majesties justices of the Peace now holding Petit Sessions at Warminster in the said County: That the persons Deceased whose names are sett Downe in our Church Register for the last past year were buried in sheep's wool only according to the Intent of the Parliament And this we Certifie by the affidavits made upon oath after the Interiing of each particular person.' Brian Holland curate of Heytesbury, George Dyer, Thomas White churchwardens. April the 25th 1685. Seen and allowed by H[enry] Coker, Richard Lewis, Thomas Lambert, Robert Hyde. *The second group of signatories comprised the justices sitting in Petty Session.*

John son of John Button born Oct 1689. John Button built a seat or pew at the west end of Heytesbury church under the almsmens' gallery in the south side coming in at the west door and gave to the church 6d. And the seat or pew was built in 1723; the said John Button then churchwarden.

HIGHWORTH

General register, 1538-1635 (1184/1) *Fine illuminated initial letters for each year to 1600 were made when the register was compiled in 1599.*

Nathaniel Aldworth MA of Oxford university and parson of Barnsley, Gloucestershire, licensed to preach by Godfrey [Goldsborough], late bishop of Oxford, preached in Highworth church, 2 Feb 1606.

Thomas Twiss MA of Oxford university and vicar of Clanfield, Oxfordshire, licensed to preach by John [Jegon], bishop of Oxford, preached in Highworth church, 2 Dec 1606.

General register, 1635-1719 (1184/2)

William Oram sworn as parish register before Robert Hippisley. *Undated, before 29 Sep 1653 when Oram began to keep the register.*

Vicars of Highworth: Guy Clinton died 1602; Robert Langton died 1654; Thomas Derham died 1702; Richard Triplett died 1719; James Ayscough died 1745; George Bryan died 1757; Edmund Bettesworth resigned 1761; Edward Clerk died 1797; William Jones died 30 Jul 1804; Edward Rowden instituted 22 Aug 1804.

General register, 1719-1743 (1184/3)

Notes by James Ayscough, vicar: he continued the custom begun by his predecessor, Richard Triplet in 1703 of recording the occupations of persons noted in the registers which continued to 1812.

1721 the elms against the south door of the church and those under the west wall were planted.

1726 the rest of the elms and limes were planted.

1722 the charity school was first taught at the vestry house.

1723 the workhouse for the poor was first set up at Eastrop.

1723 a crimson cushion and cloth were bought for the pulpit. The same year Mrs Anne Smith widow left £5 in her will to buy a cloth of the same colour together with a diaper cloth and napkin for the communion table.

1727 the gallery in the church was new laid with oaken wainscot.

1728 the balusters that before formed the gallery were put up in the chancel.

1733 there were two new surplices bought for Highworth and Sevenhampton.

1733 there were two new dial plates put up in the tower.

1735 there were a pair of candlesticks for the pulpit and pair of sconces for the reading desk bought at the charge of the parish.

1732-1733 there fell no snow this year till 10 March and then not any lie upon the ground above 12 hours.

1735 Jan 8 was the greatest storm that has been known in the memory of man; more violent than that in 1703; i[t] did more mischief.

1736 upon Midsummer day was the greatest storm of hail and rain that ever was in the memory of man; it ran out of the churchyard into the vicarage hall, down the steps like a cascade; there were 'laved' up above 40 bowls of water in the hall besides what run out at the north door.

1739 Feb 9 about 6 a clock in the evening was the most terrible thunder and lightning with the most violent storm of hail and rain that was ever known in the memory of man.

1739 the severest frost that has been known in the memory of man began on Christmas day and night and held 8 weeks.

1740 a great storm of wind and thunder and lightning 2 Dec which almost demolished the windmill and blowed down 5 barns and a house at Westrop.

1749 a silver chalice the inside whereof was gilt and the Glory on the outside gilt, holding a pint and a half of wine-measure, was given by George Bryan, vicar, for the use of the communion table; with a base for the same.

1750 two silver patens with the Glory gilt in the middle of each with a case for the same were given for the use of the communion table in the church of Highworth by Mrs Henry Southby, 2 Jun 1750.

General register, 1774-1812 (1184/5)

The heat of the weather on Tues 12, Wed 13 and Thurs 14 Jul 1808, was more intense than it was ever observed before in England. On 13th, which was the hottest day, Fahrenheit's thermometer was generally at 92 in the shade. I was informed that in some places it rose as high as 96. Edward Rowden.

In 1809 a new vicarage house was begun at Highworth, which was completed in the autumn of 1810. For that purpose the profits of the vicarage were mortgaged for a sum of £850 to be paid off in instalments in twenty years. Edward Rowden. *For papers and plan see D5/3/7.*

A statement of the population of the town of Highworth and of the several hamlets and tithings within the parish ascertained in pursuance of an Act of Parliament to that effect in the month of May 1811:

Population	Males	Females	Total
Town of Highworth	277	324	601
Eastrop and Fresdon	188	222	410

Westrop and Hampton	234	285	519
Broad and Bury Blunsdon	246	247	493
South Marston	130	158	288
Sevenhampton	97	106	203
Grand Total	1172	1342	2514

The above account of the population of the parish was taken by Thomas Godwin, who at the time, held the office of additional overseer. Edward Rowden vicar.

HILL DEVERILL

See p 294.

HILMARTON

General register, 1645-1692 (1697/1)

For Mr Thomas Jermyn in Kings Court in Lombard street, London; the name of the parish and county is to be expressed and the minister to set his name to the outside of the letter. *This and the following notes are written on the endpapers; their context is not clear.*

GR

35ft of inch elm at 1d per ft; 17ft of oak at 2d per ft.

<Richard Selman>; 4 days wrk for R. and his man;

2½ days H and for R;

4 days work for each against Christmas;

<paid £... 2s 6d for brass rail>

After Christmas: One week and one day for <Richard Selman>; 5½ days for Howel;

5½ days for <Rich.> ending 16th Jan; 5½ days for Howel.

Jan 23rd 4 days for <Rich.> ending 16 Jan; 3½ days for <Howel>; 5 days for <Richard Selman>; 6 days for Howel; and he laid for nails?

Feb 6 one week for <Rich Selman> and one week for his man <Howel>.

Feb 13th 3 days for <Rich Selman>and 6 days for Howel; he received 6d.

Apr 11th G Rob; 12½ ft of inch elm board; 3 ft of inch oak board; 20ft of ½ inch elm; 16ft of inch elm. *This possibly refers to timber work carried out in the church c1660.*

General register, 1770-1812 (1697/5)

Received of Mr Edmund Stiles churchwarden ½ guinea for visitation expenses at Devizes, 3 Aug 1804, John Wynne curate.

Received of Mr Gough churchwarden ½ guinea for attending the visitation at Chippenham, 14 Jun 1805, John Wynne curate. *Probably visitations of the archdeacon of Wilts.*

Baptised 2 Feb 1806 Aaron son of Olivia Draper of Goatacre, who was sold by William Draper her husband in Calne market to James Harper her brother in law with whom she now shamefully cohabits.

HINDON**General register, 1599-1734 (1730/1)** *A gathering of two books.*

'This registers bought by Thomas Harding one of the Trosttes [*trustees*] for the chaple of Hindon in the year 1717 and it cost three shillings it being three sheets of parchment.

In the 4th seat: Edward Bennett has a place for his wife; William Freestone; Mr Simpson; Thomas Shergold junior. In 5th seat: The widow Gainne has a place; a place belonging to the chapel. In the 6th seat Robert Allen has a place for his wife; the widow Pinfold has a place wherein Edward Mullins his wife sits. In 7th seat Thomas Willis has a place; a place belonging to the chapel. *The first part of this survey is missing. Both this note and the one following are on papers pasted into the register.*

Know all men that Robert Butler gives to the use of the chapel, after his decease, all that his seat which is next behind the seat of warder Chamberlaine in the south aisle and in which his seat William <Forde> has a place for one to sit (the rest of the whole seat belonging to the said Robert Butler). In testimony thereof he has hereunto set his hand the 22 Jun 1640. In the presence of George Jenkins, chaplain; Robert Butler (X), Edmund Boules, George Fryth, William Foorde, George Bannister, Edward Mulenes (X). Memo that the seats bequeathed to the chapel by Robert Butler is made over to Edward Tyce, one of the governors, for 8s: By us George Jenkins, chaplain, Edmund Boules, William Foorde, George Frith, Edward Mullins (X). *Robert Butler was buried 25 Apr 1645.*

The little seat in the north door was set up by Mr Samuel Stone, our present chaplain, and Thomas Band, our present clerk, set out for two women to sit in for to continue for the space of one and twenty years from the date hereof being 31st day of May 1680: Robert Kinge, Richard Newton, Alexander Knight, Edward Kinge.

HOLT**General register, 1654-1705 (1555/3a)**

Thomas Keene of Holt sworn as parish register before William Eyre, 12 Jun 1654.

General register, 1705-1766 (1555/3c)

This summer 1729 proved very sickly & great numbers died in almost all parts of the kingdom of pleuritic fevers, sore throats & other inflamations. The preceding winter was exceeding cold with piercing chilling winds & little or no warm weather til the end of May. Revd John Lewis.

>NB The following inscription was placed on the tomb of Revd John Lewis standing at the west door of the church. This tomb was reopened and enlarged

so as to contain the remains of Revd Charles Turner, incumbent of Holt, who was buried there 28 Aug 1865:

In the hope of the resurrection to eternal life Revd John Lewis lies here: Who for almost 50 years performed the duty of priest in this parish faithfully and diligently, first by public teaching and then by private instruction. He was a man who, on account of the extraordinary merits of his mind very much for venerable virtues, was a most holy erudite theologian, and a shrewd champion of the established Anglican religion. From this wretched world he passed to a better life 28 Oct 1761 aged 76<. *This note was added after the record of his burial; the memorial is in Latin but is translated here.*

General register 1782-1812 (1555/4)

Note of payments of duty on births, marriages and burials for Holt and Great Chalfield, 1787-1794.

HOMINGTON

General register, 1755-1812 (538/2)

We do agree to pay to Edward Laws? for keeping Robert Sargent's children 10s every calendar month; and Becky Meden 8s; and Goody Harris 4s. John Hibbard, John Trippock, Edward Lipps, John Goold, John Barber. *An undated vestry order probably c 1760.*

Homington 1794 Memo that whereas the parish church being very much out of repair, it was proposed by the curate, at vestry held for the purpose, to dispose of three broken bells, which had for many years been in that state, and also to dispose of the lead, which was nearly worn out, and to apply the money, (amounting with the old glass, pews and other materials to about £140), towards repairing the said church; and the curate having obtained a faculty of the dean and chapter for the purpose, it was accordingly laid out, under the direction of the curate & churchwarden in the following manner viz; the old porch was taken down in the north side, and the entrance made in the west end, and a new gravel road made to it, and a new gothic window put in the north, where the doorway was: The door way in the south aisle stopped, and also a window behind the Wyndham monument, which was removed from the corner near it: Three windows stopped in the chancel, and one new one made in the roof, which was raised, new tiled and ceiled: The whole church white washed, and all the windows new glazed and leaded & casements put in several windows, which were wired to keep out the birds: The gallery removed from the west end, and also the font, and a new way made into the tower: The old seats taken from the body of the church, and new pews (which are numbered as on the other side) [see next note] erected in the aisles and west end, upon ground rose a foot above the pavement in the nave, on purpose, in their stead; and the nave new paved; the whole was done without any expense to the parish, except the expense of the faculty. The pulpit, reading desk and clerks seat, were the donation of the right honorable the earl of Radnor, lord of the manor, who made some alterations in the curate's plan, for the best; and gave a piece of ground at the west end,

(where the wall is built upon the curve) to improve the entrance into the church, and also gave up the best pew in the church to accommodate the rector, who upon that condition, ceiled the chancel, new glazed & leaded the window in the east, and consented to have his pew in the same taken down.

Before these alterations, the church was very stark, cold, damp and the number of people who came to it but few; since, it is very light, warm, dry and much more frequented. 12 Oct 1796; Edward Whittle rector of Teffont Evias, the said curate, and William Perry the said churchwarden. *For faculty papers see D5/24/13/3.*

Memorandum of a vestry held at this church, 12 Oct 1796, of which notice was previously given. The different pews in the church were allotted in the following manner:

Number 1 to Mr John Andrews for his farms; no.2 to the earl of Radnor's Lower farm; nos.3&4 for the poor people; no.5 for strangers and poor women who come to be churched; no.6 to William Harwood's malt- & dwelling house; nos.7&8 to the poor people; no.9 to the cottage called Ladymans, belonging to John Lawes, parish clerk; no.10 to Church farm belonging to the earl of Radnor; no.11 to the vicarage or curate's house, now Revd Israel Vanderplank; no.12 to the Parsonage farm belonging to Ambrose Harwood. Witness our hands Edward Whittle, curate, Willaim Perry, William Harwood churchwardens, Ambrose Harwood rector, John Lawes parish clerk, John Flower 'yehoman'.

HORNINGSHAM

General register, 1653-1688 (482/2)

Roger Cheapman of Horningsham sworn as parish register before Nicholas Green, Edward Michell, 29 - 1654.

HUISH

General register, 1603-1812 (1740/1)

Given by Gabriel Thistlethwayte clerk, formerly the unworthy rector of this church, the sum of

£10 to the parish of Huish, to be safely laid or let out by the rector and churchwardens for the use and benefit of the parish clerk and his successors for ever; for which he is to toll or ring the bell every Sunday in the afternoon about one a clock, beginning the last Sunday in April and so on every Sunday ending the first Sunday in August, to call all the children of Huish and Oare that are fit to be catechised, and there to hear and teach them the Catechism of the Church of England, till Divine Service in the afternoon begins, and so perfect them for the minister and for confirmation by the bishop when thereunto called.

Now if the parish clerk or his successors shall hereafter refuse or neglect to do this office, it is the will of the donor that, that year he or they so refuses the

rector or churchwardens shall take the benefit of this gift from him or them, and give it that year to the poor of the parish.

This desired by the donor to be fairly recorded in your parish register in perpetuum rei memoriam. *Gabriel Thistlethwayte's will was dated 1718. See Ch Com Rep.*

HULLAVINGTON

General register, 1558-1641 (British Library Egerton Ms 3128) *Microfilm copy in Wiltshire and Swindon Archives.*

'Thomas More is my name and with my pen I wright it'. *Written by entries for the 1590's probably c1630.*

. . . there present . . . George Ivey, Henry James, Thomas Greene, John Power, John Blick, John Pell, Thomas Colman, Robert Painter, Lawrence Bullock. *This fragment which is added after burials for 1636 is possibly a record of the subscription of the vicar to the 39 Articles of religion, which is made on the incumbent's institution. John Stanley was succeeded by John More in 1636.*

IDMISTON

General register, 1577-1654 (1098/1)

Register begun 1599 by Richard Griffiths MA, fellow of St John's college, Cambridge, and vicar.

18 Mar 1605 the bishop did visit.

23 Jul 1606 the archbishop of Canterbury did visit.

The bishop's visitation, 28 Jul 1608; same, 8 Apr 1611.

7 Jun 1613 the archbishop of Canterbury did visit Salisbury.

General register, 1654-1702 (1098/2)

Andrew London, tailor, of Idmiston sworn as parish register before Edward Tooker, 7 Mar 1654.

General register, 1702-1768 (1098/3)

Memos that no affidavits had been received that Mary wife of John Small or William Webb had been buried in woolen according to the Act, 2, 3 Mar 1716; same for the burial of Mrs Elizabeth Champneys widow of Woolverton Somerset, buried 1 Jan 1723, 17 Jan 1723; penalty paid 19 Jan 1723 by her executor. *Reference to the Burial in Woollen Act, 1678.*

IMBER

General register, 1709-1792 (1026/2) *there are several references to copies of the register being exhibited at the bishop's visitations between 1763-1773; and to 1805 in the succeeding register.*

- Grimes (a robber) was buried 3 Jun 1716. This Grimes, with his companion

- Baldwin, having robbed several persons in their return from Warminster market on Saturday, being 2 Jun aforesaid, after a long and desperate pursuit, were both shot mortally wounded before sunset of the same day. Grimes shot by Edward Slade of Chittern near Warminster furze, who was brought dead to Imber and here buried the day following; and Baldwin shot by - Dike of Knook near Heytesbury on West Lavington Sheep downs, who was carried alive to West Lavington, but soon died and there was buried. Note Grimes died within an hour after he was wounded but Baldwin, who was first shot, lived till about seven next morning. It is not without good reason supposed that Grimes was an old offender, both by the appearance of a scar on his cheek, as also by the account that Baldwin gave of him. But Baldwin protested that it was the first crime of that nature he was ever guilty of. *William Baldwin was buried in West Lavington, 4 Jun 1716 [746/1].*

19 Jan 1764 the springs came from Broken Cross and from Lady's Well and South down into Imber.

20 Sep 1768 the springs broke and was very high: 15 and 16 May 1774 snow fell from 11 Mar 1774: The element very deep. The springs were higher than ever was known in the memory of man; they came from Broken Cross above ye Lady's Well and from South Down house into Imber.

16 Oct 1774 the springs broke upon a Sunday morning.

INGLESHAM

General register, 1589-1811 (1818/44)

'A newe register (after the oulde Register was loste by the Negligence of the then Churchwardins) made the xxvth daye of October in the year of oure lorde god a thousand fyve hundred fourscore and nyne for the parishe of Inglesham in the dioces of Sarum; which booke was provided by Richard Ware one of the Churchwardens anno domini 1614, but at the charge of the parishe.' *The register was copied out from 1589 in 1614.*

May 29 1614: The bound for the churchyard from the stile down to the vicarage garden on the south part of the churchyard was allotted out and measured the year abovesaid in the presence of Richard Wane, Edmund Steward, John Mallin, John Denman, Richard Oram, Joan Denman widow and William Bayly in the presence of Mr Jaques minister and Nicholas Garnar; Imprimis to every yardland in Over Inglesham in width 7ft; and so proportionably to every yard; next the stile Richard Oram which since was Stewards afterwards Mr Martins 7ft; Joan Denman widow now John Cusse 3½ ft; Joan Jacob widow now Thomas Jacob 3½ ft; Joan Steward and William Steward her son for the farm now Mr Martins 28ft; Richard Wane for two and a half yardlands 17½ ft; John Sturte for a yardland and a half 10 ½ ft; William Bayly now Mr Martins 3½ ft; John Leech now Mr Martins 3 ½ ft; William Mallin now Mr Martins 14ft. The copy of this was registered by Richard Wane the day and year above written, now brought forth by Walter Matthew 16 Apr 1655. *Robert Jaques signed bishops transcripts, 1619 and 1620.*

1621 item the gift of the bishop of Sarum, but sede vacante in the king's gift: these are to certify that Timothy Woodruffe, clerk, was inducted into the real actual and corporal possession of the parish church of Inglesham in the diocese of Sarum and archdeaconry of Wilts 14 Oct in the presence of divers whose names are under written: by me Richard Stubbs, vicar of Hannington, Robert Jaques, curate, Nicholas Gardner, Richard Wane, William Pitman, Thomas Hall, Samuel Burges.

The book of Articles was plainly and distinctly read 18th Oct and also the second time 18 Nov by Timothy Woodruffe, vicar of Inglesham, in the parish church in the time of divine service whereunto the said vicar did yield his unfeigned assent and consent according as the statute in that case provides in the presence of us whose names are underwritten: Robert Jaques, Samuel Burges, Richard Burell, Edward Steward, Richard Wane, Thomas Hall, William Pitman, Christopher Harte with divers others both men and women then and there present. Lovest thou me, feed my flock. *Loosely based on John 21 15.*

Vicars in memory: Golhill, Amery, J Bevington, J Phillips, T Woodroffe, Robert Babb, Bernard Babb, Richard West, John Berrow, T Rundle; R Burton. *All of these are listed in Phillipp's except Amery and Golhill who probably served during the second half of the 16th century.*

Thomas Jacobs sworn as parish register before Robert Hippisley, 22 Sep 1653.

'Information about the Marsh & Mead att Inglesham the number 64 to pasture att 3rd May the particular men who stocked the Marshe are Mr Sadbury 14, vicar 14, Mr Sparrow 14, Mr Cleeve 8, Richard Burril 8, John Gardner 5, the farm at Lower Inglesham 1. The Lord of the Mannor bought in all these Beast Leazes, except Rd Burril & John Garner, & exchanged with the vicar. The Marsh is a Cow Common & the custom is the third of May for this number above mentiond to pasture there & Aug 1st to common & pasture both in Marsh & North Meade, the marsh is mead is a Cow common for this number of Rother Beasts and when this number of Beasts shall be releived in the Mead at Lammas no other are to succeed in the Marsh. The custom for the sheep, to come into the Cow Common, is at St Martins-Tide & none before, excepting twenty Potters, att which time they come in; Thomas Jacob has a Lease & can best inform. This John Garners information Sept 25th 1659.

Information also from Edmund Steward.

Edmund Steward aged 77, was born in Inglesham & there lived forty years, now lives at Coleshill which is 3 miles of it, saith that the marsh of Lower Inglesham is a Cow Common & that the Beasts are to pasture at Lammas, in North Mead & Marsh five acres is a part of the Cow Common in the North Mead & ought not be enclod. And that no sheep are by custom to Common in Marsh or Mead till St Martins-tide excepting twenty sheep called Potters which came in somewhat before. Edmund Steward had 20li a year free land in the town which he sold to Mr Martin; & that when the Commoners do pasture in North Mead, no other Rother Beasts ought to be putt into their places in the Marsh to his information he did sett his hand; which I set to

Captain Burril upon his request Oct 19th 1659.' *Written among the entries for 1723. 3 May, the feast of the Invention of the Cross and Lammas [1 Aug], were often the dates for commons to be thrown open; St Martin's day fell on 1 Nov.*

KEEVIL

General register, 1559-1667 (653/1)

Episcopus visitabat [*The bishop visited*], 19 Apr 1602
The bishop visited 17 Apr 1605.

General register, 1650-1687 (653/2)

Thomas Lewes sworn as public parish register, 8 ... 1653. *Page torn, full date and signature[s] of the Justice[s] of the Peace missing.*

General register, 1733-1769 (653/5)

Mathew Shepherd was chosen clerk of the parish, 5 Nov 1735, by Revd Mr [Richard] Wainhouse.

General register, 1770-1812 (653/6)

This book was bought of Mr Thomas Borough of Devizes, 1 Mar 1770; cost £1 10s 6d.

Memoranda by the parish clerk:

The church was damaged by lightning in Sep 1794.

James Shepherd was chosen in parish clerk by Revd [James] Richardson, vicar of Keevil 1781.

This parish was inoculated by Dr Lewis of Steeple Ashton 3 Nov 1794.

This parish and the parish of Bulkington was inoculated by Mr Cary of Trowbridge in Dec 1805; James Shepherd parish clerk.

KEMBLE *Transferred to Gloucestershire in 1897*

General register, 1679-1812 (GA P189 IN 1/2)

6s 6d I had for this book.

Thomas Holloway minister 1679.

Jeremiah Hewer was inducted vicar, 26 Jun 1707; Isaac Small, 6 May 1760, died 4 Aug 1764; John Copson 12 Mar 1765, died 14 Apr 1785; John Parker, Apr 1785; John Thaine Froud, Sep 1787.

1702 'There came to Kemble a poor old man & crept into a barn where he died; he would not tell his name, said he had no habitation; neither would he tell where he was born; he was put into the Earth January 23' *1703 new style.*

KILMINGTON

Transcript of general register, 1582-1715 (2063/1)

This register was copied from an old register by the desire of Revd Charles

Digby, rector and Mr Maxfield, maltster, then in office of churchwarden 1776 by – Chislet of Mere; the original being only legible to those who could read the old English text.

General register, 1655-1688 (2063/2)

George Edwards of Kilmington sworn as parish register before John Carye, 17 Nov 1655.

General register, 1705-1733 (2063/3)

Curates and rectors as appear by the old registers and parish papers: Curates; Richard Craddock, 1583; William Gage, 1599, buried 27 May 1602; George Edwards, 1602; Richard Pollard, 1605-1613; John Phipping, 1673; Allen Law, 1705.

Rectors; Francis Potter, 1632; Revd John Phipping succeeded Francis Potter in 1677, and was curate in 1673; Archdeacon Hill; Mr Hennings, who built the rectory; Canon Hill; Revd Dr Stone, inducted 1752; William Digby, 1760, afterward canon of Christ Church Oxford, then dean of Worcester; Revd Withick, who held it one year for Charles Digby, who was inducted 2 Jun 1767.

An account of miles, quarters, furlongs and perches from Kilmington church to the upper gate at Rodmead farm: To the Fir Stone, 8qtr 18p 10 links; to Harpet Lane end, 1m 1f 8p; to Post Lane end, 2m 1qtr 34 p; to the Upper yard Rodmead gate, 2m 3 qtr 22f. Measured by Lawrence Smart by order of the parish 1776.

General register, 1733-1777 (2063/4)

Memo 1786 by C Digby rector:

Thomas Roles, clerk, 1 May 1786; has had 12 children and buried 2; and has 10 alive, 3 sons and 7 daughters: Thomas drives Pittards' wagon and lives at Wincanton; 2nd Samuel lives at Zeals, farmer Burford's; 3rd John works in the gardens at Redlynch [*Somerset*]; Mary; Martha; Elizabeth married to Edwards; Anna; Susanna; Sarah married to J Evrett lives below Corp's.

Medens lane, leading down to H Hobhouse's farm, now in the occupation of James Corp, late Larkham; Cokers lane leading from Homestalls to Harpert lane; Kilmington street; Long lane; Butts lane leading to Yarnfield >This lane derived from a person of the name of Butt in Burnt Paddock adjoining the parsonage garden<. c1775

1783: Kilmington: Pointings*; Shoare's >now Robert Moor's<; Late Madox's, Herington; Benjamin Ryall's; Lower Smarts*; Butler's*; London's*; Gifford's >Earl of Ilchester<; Green's*; Miles's, James Case*; White's, Willam Ryall, Richard Colt Hoare esq*Coat and Obern's, Willam Ryall,; Upper Smarts Richard Colt Hoare esq, about 50 *; Malt house >J Lush's<; Great house >earl of Ilchester<.

Norton Ferris: Homestalls >Mr Webb's<; Leversedges*; Fitzherbert's*; Late Barns's >Henry Hobhouse's<; Coxe's*; Pickford's late Wilmot's; Augustine

Smart's, late Pickford's >earl of Ilchester<; Norton farm. Charles Digby, rector. *Insertions made in 1804; * Sir Richard Colt Hoare in 1804.*

KINGTON ST MICHAEL

General register, 1563-1639 (1187/1)

1620 memo that Walter Gingill, Robert Tanner, George Pegler and Thomas Smith of Langley within the parish of Kington St Michael have the consent of the minister and churchwardens for the building of a seat below the font for their wives, and for the better confirmation of it to remain to them and for their successors they have given to the church four pence a piece which is received by Richard Hine, vicar to be employed about the church. Recorded here 2 Apr. Richard Hine, vicar, William Browne, Thomas Taylor, churchwardens.

Also William Browne, William Emmett, Richard Williams alias Taylor, John Coller junior and William Lambe have the consent of the minister and churchwardens for the building of a seat for their wives in the same alley where the aforesaid seat is built, joining onto the said seat, and for the better confirmation of it to remain to them and for their successors they have given to the church four pence a piece which is received by the said minister and churchwardens to be used about the church. Recorded here the day and year above specified.

1622 memo that William Deeke of Langley in the parish of Kington St Michael has the consent of the minister and churchwardens for building two seats, one for himself and one for his wife, in the alley going up into the chancel and for the better confirmation of it to remain to him and for his successors he has given to the church one shilling and sixpence which is received by the minister and churchwardens to be employed about the church. Recorded here 14 Feb 1623; by me Richard Hine, vicar, John Tanner, Mathew Alande.

Memo that I Richard Hoskins have sold to Richard Godinge, to the use of Mr Arthur Sheerestone, and to remain to his land, part of his farm of Easton (if Mr Sheerestone shall accept it) the seat room in the church that heretofore have belonged to Julian Archard's hold for the price of five shillings, which seat room is in the uppermost of the middle rank where Simon Necke sits; and for the better confirmation that it may still remain for Mr Sheerestone's land Richard Goddinge have given 6d to the church, which 6d is received by the minister and churchwardens to be employed to the use of the church. Recorded here 20 Sep 1632; Richard Hine, vicar, Richard Goddinge, William Bell, churchwardens.

Memo that Mrs Dorothy Tindall, the wife of Thomas Tindall gent, did give a broad green carpet fringed round with green silk fringe, all which cost betwixt forty and fifty shillings, unto the church of Kington for to cover the communion table; which carpet was provided and given about St James tide [25 Jul] 1635. Recorded by the minister and churchwardens Richard Hine, vicar, William Tanner, Walter Coleman, churchwardens.

Memo that Adam Milsham did give a clock and chimes, which cost him £12, to the parish church and they are set up in the tower of the church with the consent of the minister, the churchwardens and divers other of the chief inhabitants about Midsummer in the year of our Lord 1639. Richard Hine, vicar, Christopher Shipway, William Tanner, churchwardens.

General register, 1639-1663 (1187/2)

William Tanner the elder of Kington St Michael sworn as parish register before William Shute, 25 Nov 1653.

In the year 1663 James Gastrell gent did erect one new seat under the minister's pew for he and his heirs for ever and for the better confirmation he have the consent of the minister and churchwardens, 29 Mar 1664. John Ferris, minister, William Tanner, Thomas Tanner (X), churchwardens.

In the year 1683 note concerning William Tanner's 'Wid [*?Widow*] in ner outh for': for ringing for his 2 children 2s; for my clerk's wages ragestter 8d; for two cords 8d; for 'hoss hier to Cossem and Chepnam' [*horse hire to Corsham and Chippenham*] 10d. *The idiosyncratic spelling and tricky hand make part of this difficult to read; William Tanner, who appears to have been parish clerk, had two daughters, both named Mary, buried in 1684; on 20 Jan and 28 Dec.*

General register, 1663-1691 (1187/3)

William Tanner received of Thomas Tanner the sum of 7s 6d for keeping the register and washing and mending the linen 2 Jun 1684.

General register, 1690-1790 (1187/4)

Memo 18 Apr 1695; tis agreed by those whose names are under written never to spend on the parish account above 2s 6d at any one meeting whatsoever. Richard Humfries, vicar, Hugh Row, Robert Holloway, John Hewitt, William Tylie, Jonathan Deek senior.

27 Oct 1712 The minister and churchwardens did upon consideration of 1s permit Mr Jonathan Deek to erect a seat at the lower end of the body of the church on the right hand next adjoining to the belfry for the use of him and his heirs, notice being lawfully given and nobody claiming a right to the ground. Benjamin Griffin, vicar, James Deek, churchwarden.

Memo that actual and quiet possession of this church of Kington St Michael was given to Mr William Harington on 26 Feb 1717 in the presence of us who have herewith subscribed our names: Jonathan Power, Charles Brown, Thomas Archard, John Griffin (X), William Rayly, John Wastfield.

Notes by John Scope, vicar.

Memo the tithe of a ground belonging to Mr White called Power's alias Laughford's Heath was taken in kind in 1753. J Scope: Ergo no modus.

27 Jan 1754 received of Mrs Davis 6s 8d for opening the ground of the

churchyard for the interment of her husband who lived and died at Church Yatton [*Yatton Keynell*] and was buried at Kington. J Scrope.

25 Feb 1765 the bank parting the ham from Mr White's Dean-Bottom was divided between us, he to shave away the lower part, and to take the trees etc beyond, I to have the upper part with the 'stowles' therein, and to keep the bounds till proof can be brought that Mr White or his father ever mended them: Mr Isaac Gale junior was between us.

Memo in Mr Harington's time the walk beyond the farther Filbert hedge and the ground on which the wall <in the vicarage garden> stands was given by Mr White out of Tor hill in exchange for a way to his house, granted out of the churchyard.

Memo the north aisle of this church was rebuilt in 1755 >towards which JS gave 2 guineas<.

Memo one of the objections Sir R Long made to buying the estate of Mrs Maynard at Langley (rented by farmer Handy) in 1765, was that the tithe might be doubled: Ergo no modus.

Memo John Hibbard (the baker) told me when I came hither first, that the tithe of what his mother had, now paid between him and Robert Cliesh, was raised from 16s to 20s pa by Mr Harington on neglect of payment: Ergo no modus. J Scrope. 19 Mar 1768.

5 Mar 1755 Mrs Harington made a present to this church of a silver plate for the sacramental bread, or paten.

Extract of the will of Mr Isaac Lyte relating to a bequest for an almshouse in Kington St Michael; 12 Feb 1692, witnesses; Richard Humphreys vicar, James Power, John Harford churchwardens. *See Ch Com Rep. The will was proved in 1673, TNA PROB 11/342.*

General register, 1791-1812 (1187/5)

Receipt of S & C Hougham, working goldsmiths, Aldersgate street, London, with the churchwardens for a new polished silver cover to a chalice, in exchange for the old one; engraving inscription, repairing and doing up the chalice 18s 6d; paid carriage from Wilts 1s 6d; paid for a registered ... 12s, 19 Nov 1791. *Pasted into the register.*

LACOCK

General register, 1653-1736 (1654/2)

Mr Edward Enos sworn as parish register before William Eyre, 24 Nov 1653. John Barnes clerk sworn as parish register in the room of Edward Enos deceased before George Ivey, Edward Stokes, William Shute, 6 Nov 1654.

Receipts by William Atkinson, vicar, for head- and foot-stones in the churchyard: John Fast of Lacock, 10s 6d, for his wife's grave, 9 Oct 1759: William Street of Lacock, 10s 6d, for his son's grave, 25 Jan 1760: Hugh Pearce of Lacock, £1 1s, for putting a tombstone over his daughter's grave in the churchyard, 27 Aug 1760.

Same by Arthur Atkinson, curate: Widow Blake of Lacock, 10s 6d, for her husband's grave, 4 Aug 1766.

LANDFORD

General register, 1671-1716 (1063/1)

Upon 11 Jan 1690 towards the evening there happened a violent tempestuous wind which continuing to about 11 or 12 at night blew down a great elm (sold afterwards for £10) growing on the north side of the church, which falling on the church and chancel, beat down a great part of the roof of both. They were both so repaired as that divine service was read and the Lord's supper administered on Whitsunday following being 8th Jun 1690. The repairing of the church cost to the workmen £33, besides the timber (which Dr Gilbert Burnet, lord bishop of Sarum gave out of Langly wood) and the carriage of all the timber, tiles, brick and all other materials which the workmen paid for (but the parish tot). A breach that was made in the north wall, a little east of the porch, was then made into a window. The chancel cost, the repairing, beside the timber that was cut down in Stock close, about £3 10s. John Redman, rector, James Lock, Giles Hobbs, churchwardens.

1671 Charles Luke, rector, at his own proper cost and charges erected the rails around the communion table in the church, and repaired the rectory house excellently.

1676 the same Charles Luke had the Ten Commandments set up in the chancel.

21 Dec 1677 the same Charles Luke conserved the altar cloth on the altar so that it might remain permanently. *Some of these notes are in Latin; the last one reads Gausape in suggestum ecclesie conservavit in eternum remansurum.*

1706 Francis Wallace, rector, repaired the parsonage house, built the chimney in the parlour and also new erected the stairs and dug the cellar, which cost him £30 and upward; he new pailed the backside and new built the well house and enlarged the barn.

Landford tithes let in 1722: Charles Moody for the farm £16, and that the Captain Eyre had and Kernels and the Copes [*coppices*] and Quintons £3 15s; John Munday for the glebe £5; John Munday for Kenels and his own £2 17s, and that of his father 12s; Robert Moody for his and Collices £5; James Barnes for that was Gilberts £2 10s; John Nouell £1 4s; Mr John Hayter £3; Richard Curtice 12s; William Winter 12s; Daniel Winter 12s; Robert Henbest 14s 6d; Joseph Nutben 8s 6d; Robert Gilbert 6s; George Moody 6s; Charles Gardner 5s; Stephen Winter 5s 6d; William Daves 18s; Tutt for Hobbes 12s; the glebe in the park 15s; Mr Copdean's living £3; farmer Matie £6; Thomas Dennes £2 10s; George Stokes £2 10s; the widow Pratt £1 4s; Benjamin King for Knights 5s; for that which was Redmans; 12s 6d; for that which was Whits 5s; the glebe atome £12; Stok Closes £8. This taken out of Mr Wallace's book £82 8s 6d. *Atome might be atomy, for anatomy, meaning a small portion of the whole.*

General register, 1789-1812 (1063/3)

Memo 1793 Henry Eyre, rector, received of Mrs Edmonds of Hampworth for leave to erect a head-stone to the memory of her husband in the churchyard 1s; of Samuel Greatheed esq for leave to make a burying ground under his seat in the church £5 5s, to place a monument in the church to the memory of his mother £1 1s, to erect a head-stone in the churchyard to the memory of his servant 5s, and to open a grave in the aisle of the church and for leave to place a stone over it £1 1s; of James Soffe of the Earldoms for leave to erect a head-stone in the churchyard to the memory of his father 2s 6d.

LANGLEY BURRELL**General register, 1607-1702 (1487/1)**

'I Charles A Land being appointed Register according to an ordinance of Parliament in the year 1654.'

'Be it Rembred that upon the first day of November 1656 William Hulbert was sworne Parrish register of Langly Burill before, Edward Stokes.'

21 Oct 1676 then purchased of Daniel Powell and John Crook, churchwardens by Samuel Ashe esq of Langley Burrell a seat, near the north door in the parish church adjoining to a seat belonging to Mr Jenkins, for 5s. Daniel Powell (X), John Crook (X).

25 Nov 1693 then purchased of James Collet and Michael Belott, churchwardens by Samuel Ashe esq of Langley Burrell, a seat, near the north door in the parish church which was Mr Jenkins's during his life, for 10s. James Collet, Michael Belot (X).

General register, 1702-1802 (1487/2)

28 Sep 1723 deed of exchange between Joseph Ashe esq, patron and Thomas Reede, rector of

Langley Burrell: JA gives TR $\frac{1}{2}$ a of arable in the common field called Wraxall corner near Pipsmore field, enclosed land of Mr Richard Scott on one side and glebe land on the other, in exchange for a small $\frac{1}{2}$ a of arable in the common field called Chippenham field, William Buy on one side, the said Mr Ashe on the other; TR leases to JA 43 p of arable lately enclosed in Chippenham field, William buy on one side and Mr Anthony Guy on the other for 50 years or the life of Rebecca Farmer widow of Langley Burrell; JA gives TR 43 lugs in Chippenham field, abutting on the Malmesbury road, Mr Richard Scott on the south, glebe land on north, so far level as can be ploughed, exclusive of a right of way from the land for Rebecca. Signed by the parties and witnessed by Stephen Hodson junior.

26 Dec 1723 deed of exchange between Mathew Smith, Bradford on Avon, clothier and tenant of the manor of Langley Burrell and Thomas Reed, rector, with the consent of Joseph Ashe, patron and lord of the manor: MS gives TR $\frac{1}{2}$ a of arable in Pipsmore field, glebe land on each side, in exchange for $\frac{1}{2}$ a of glebe in Merlin Pit in Chippenham field, MS on northland of the manor of Mouncton on south. Signed by the parties and JA; witnessed by William Buy and Stephen Hodson junior. *The deeds are transcribed in full in the register.*

‘To all Christian people to whom this our certificate shall come, we whose names are hereunto subscribed, do testify that on the day of the date hereof Robert Ashe clerk rector of Langley Burrell in our hearing did read, publickly openly and solemnly, the morning and evening prayers, appointed to be read by and according to the Book of Common Prayer, and after reading thereof did openly and publickly before the Congregation there assembled, declare his unfeign’d assent and consent. And at the same time did read the XXXIX Articles of our Religion, to all which and every thing therein contain’d, did declare his unfeign’d consent and assent. And at the same time likewise did read an instrument, subscribed by him before Thomas Bishop of Sarum on the 17th of January, wherein he declares that he will conform to the Liturgy of the Church of England as it is now by law established. In testimony whereof we have signed our hands this 12th day of February 1743 [1744 *new style*]; William Buy, Philip Haskins (X), Jeffery Mathews, George Knight, Reuben Lockstone, Jeremiah Knight’

Memo; the bassoon given by me to the singers of the parish of Langley Burrell is intended for their use in the parish church only, the case of practising excepted, I wish it to be kept at the house of the parish clerk, that if the singers should at any time discontinue their singing, there may be a proper person to preserve the said instrument for the use of any future choir that may be established, and I know of none so fit as the clerk for the time being. I would have it clearly understood that it is intended for the use of the parish church of Langley Burrell, and never to become the property of any individual; 10 Jul 1796, Samuel Ashe, rector.

LATTON

General register, 1576-1704 (633/11) *A gathering of two books.*

William Edwards of Latton sworn as parish register before Robert Hippisley, 13 Jun 1654.

General register, 1742-1796 (633/13)

William Henry Ardern MA curate of Dunstable Bedfordshire was inducted into the vicarage of Latton, 19 Jun 1772.

LEIGH

See p 11 for details about the benefice under Revd William Lea Briscoe from 1786.

General register, 1683-1745 (1431/1). *Summary accounts of churchwardens, overseers and waywardens, 1682-1687; constable’s account nd c 1700; churchwardens account, 1775. See also p 294.*

22 Aug 1683 William Howes, parish clerk, departed this life; he and his father before him served the office of clerk in this parish near 100 years, they two only.

'In the year 1683 was so great a frost that the eldest man Living at that time Did not remember the Like before, by the Relation of viry ancient men. The frost went 3 foot in the earth; very few sillers & buttreys in the Kingdome of England but all or most parte of all the Drinke was Converted into Ire [*iron*], that people were much Troubled to gett Drinkes.'

2 May 1686 then Robert Hawkes received of John Woodman, one of the former collectors for the poor £1, which formerly was in the hand of widow Witt, which money she paid yearly use into the hands of the churchwardens and overseers of the poor to be distributed the Sunday before Christmas to the second poor of Leigh. Robert Hawkes and Joshua Edwards were paid 2 May 1686. *The second poor were those not needy enough to be relieved out of poor rates but eligible for charitable gifts.*

'In the year 1698 on 23 April and 4 May was a greate snow and greate frost, and but a little Summer all that year; there was hardly any thing Ripe nor but little harvist weather'

In the year 1714 Somerset Hinton, at his own expense with the consent of Mr Isaac Gwinnett, minister, and Thomas Kemble and John Cowley, chapel wardens, built a seat in the chapel for the use of his wife, Betty. It is the front seat on the north side next the door; anything in any other register to the contrary notwithstanding.

The chapel was new laid and plastered against the 'pinne' in 1717 and the gallery was built the same year and the chapel new painted by John Flux of Cirencester. John Waldren, John Painter, churchwardens.

John Painter came in clerk, 30 May 1717.

'In the year 1721 was the great light seen in the air on 19th March which was the greatest that ever was seen.' *1722 new style.*

'The Clarks which have sarved sence I can Remember are thease; William House, John Bathe, Thomas Darter, John Willis, John Painter.'

'King George the second crowned October 19th in the year 1727 god grant him Long to Raine. Amen'

'In the year 1740 and on the 22 of Oct; in the Evinieng fell a great snow wich did continou till Simon Jude and not all the snow milted at 28 day of Oct.' *The feast day of Ss Simon and Jude fell on 28 Oct.*

'In the yeare 1775 upon the 8th day of September it was soped with sum people in wilsheer to be an Earthquacke in sum parts of the same Conty by seaveill people as found the Earth to shake and trimble as they Lay in beades with greate seprize to them that felt it and many Countys in England and Walls as 'tis reported by the news papers.'

'Upon the 29th of Febeary 1781 highest winds that any man did ever know broke down trees houses hay rickes corn ricks killed many Cows some peapol, and some sort of all Cattell of all kinds to the suprise of all people in Englands and Walls pray God we may never see the Like again'

General register, 1747-1787 (1431/2)

10 Sep 1744 John Parker and Neville Maskelyne bought this book of George Hill at 10s 6d.

John Telling came in clerk, Feb 1749.

29 Jul 1770 George Flowers was buried under Mrs Carter's common ground hedge near The Hundred Acres corner by order of the coroner on account of poisoning himself. *Written on the outside of the front cover of the register. See also WRS vol 36 p 40.*

LITTLE BEDWYN

General register, 1722-1728 (1955/1)

1753 The rails of the churchyard are to be repaired by the following persons; Mr Richens, Knowle, on the south side 6 perches of rails; Stephen Winkworth next him Anthony Clifton 1p; Bird next him westward William George 1p; ...ll Living next him Thomas Clifton 2p; Next the door & stile: Mr Streat for Jennins next Richard Carpenter 1p; Tarrants in the lane next Edmund Pyke 1p; Littleworth, Thomas Greenaway next Nicholas Kimber 1p; John Tarrant next Agnes Tarrant 1p; James Newe now John Medom next Mary Early 1p; Francis Thistlethwayte next John Hayes 3p; Mr Tribe, Harris, next Thomas Izard and Mark Leg 5p; Widow Birch next John Minol 1p; James Blackwell next Mr Hungerford 1p; - next John Hayes 1p, supposed to be Francis Thistlethwaite; Revd Mr Green next Nicholas Kimber for Hobbs 1p; Mr Tribe next Robert Newe 2p; Horsehelhill, Thistlethwayte next John Harris 3p; Sir Michael Ernle next Nicholas Kimber for Timbridge 2p; Putol, Mr Rolfe next H Hyde 2p; Widow Weeks & Thimley next William Farmor 2p, Timbridge; William Farmer next John Hill 2p Crably'; Mr Streat next Robert Streat 2p; Mr Streat next John Smith 1p; John Smith senior next Robert Smith 1p; Bartlet next John Early 1p; Christopher Bushell next Bushell 1p; Stephen Blandy next Jo Smith for Reads 2p; Stephen Blandy next John Gosling 1p; Mr Streat next Mr Seymour 2p; Blandy next Widow George 1p; Bushell next Thomas Checquer 1p; Mr Streat next John Bushell 1p; Christopher Bushell next Thomas Checquer 1p; Greenaway next John Kimber 1 ½p; Stephen Winkworth next Anthony Clifton 1p; Stephen Blandy next John Gosling the stile.

All the rest, both rails and hedge, from the stile to Mr Richen's rails, Mr Streat is to make. *Interleaved in the register.*

General register, 1730-1813 (1955/25)

Notes by L[ewis] E[vans], curate

Geometrical calculation working out the height of the top of the church spire; 27.09yd; confirmed by readings using a sextant as 26.9 yd to the centre of the base of the top of the stone on which the iron cross is fixed, 11 Jul 1795. Astronomical observations on the latitude of Little Bedwyn vicarage, 1791-1795 calculated at $51^{\circ} 23' 40''$ using a brass sextant. Reference to Mr Troughton's house 136 Fleet Street, London, given by his brother Edward T. Distances from Froxfield church porch to Little Bedwyn church porch 1 mile 2 furlongs 6 chains 57 links; to the vicarage house door 1m 3f 9c 5li; from Little Bedwyn church porch to Great Bedwyn church porch 1m 4f 0c 54li.

Land of Mr Kent taken for the canal titheable to the vicar 4 acres 1 rod. *Undated c1800.*

Sketch plan of the churchyard rails, based on an old plan of 1752.

Total length 83p; Lord Aylesbury 42p; estates, Knowle 6p, Bird's 1p, Horsell Hill 4p, Glyde 5p, Littleworth 1p, Rushly 3p, Harris 10p, Burch's 1p, Putter 3p, Timbridge 2p, Crabtree 2p, Robert Smith 1p, query 1p; Mr Kent's estate 29p; the heirs of Miss Blandy's estate, including a stile 6p; Mr Wentworth 2p; Gregory Smith 2p; Mr Pearce 1p; Mr Potter 1p; doors by the parish and vicar 2p. One door was made by the late vicar Dr Harrison opposite the chancel door in a perch of railing heretofore belonging to Bushells, now part of the Kent estate and the other door is repaired by the parish. B[enjamin] Newton vicar, 3 Dec 1809

7 May 1812 the vicar and parishioners perambulated the bounds of the parish commencing on the towing path on the south side of the Kennett and Avon canal at a spot directly opposite the hedge at the west end of a small field called Burnt-Mill field, and passing along the hedge; continued along the east end of the lane leading to Jockey farm house and turning into Morril down; continued along all the south side of the down into a field called Early's and along the west side of it into a corner where is the junction of Shalbourne with Great Bedwyn and Little Bedwyn (at the top of the Strap and the Round copse); and continued along the south hedge of Earley's, West Lease, Upper Plain, Middle Plain, Lower Plain, Greenways grounds, the Upper moors, Cowlease, the Brick Kiln dells, Wentworth's copse and Cow Lease, along the lane (which is all in Little Bedwyn parish) to Pedlar's gate where Shalbourne and Little Bedwyn join Froxfield; and going around the east end of a small field up to a place called the Breach in the hedge of the east side of east field, where for some length the fence belongs to Little Bedwyn, up to a certain elm (where for a few poles the fence is upon Oakhill, and afterwards upon Little Bedwyn again up to Hungerford lane) down to a place in the lane called Post Stile where the lane belongs to Little Bedwyn; down to Fore bridge from whence the canal occupies the bounds of two parishes, to the end of Little Bedwyn glebe land, where the boundary turns nearly north along the west side of Lay copse, Froxfield glebe land and down, up to the corner of Alms house copse; and continuing round the south west corner of the copse passes into the copse along a ditch from the corner of Little Bedwyn North field into Chisbury North field and down

the eastern hedge of Chisbury farm into the Bath turnpike road; where the boundary of Little Bedwyn is the north hedge of the road to the Harrow inn where the south end of the stable stands in Little Bedwyn. The north hedge of the turnpike road was perambulated as the boundary from the Harrow to the eastern hedge of Knowl farm, which with the north hedge of the farm forms the boundary up to a place called the Hand and Post, where is the junction of Ramsbury with Froxfield and Little Bedwyn; and turning along the eastern hedge of the Park farm down to Henswood, passes along a ditch in Henswood out at the corner of a field called Billings, the north side of which and of Lord Aylesbury's property is the parish boundary to Puthall park, and to Puthall corner where Mildenhall meets Ramsbury and Little Bedwyn; and from thence passing down a road through a wood came to the Bath road, and passing along the road for the length of one field on the right, crossed up to a bush in a field called Forest Piece, and thence bearing right to an oak in the forest fence came through the wood to an oak called Amity oak, where Burbage joins Mildenhall and Little Bedwyn; and passing along a ditch arrive at Crab Tree common, of which the south and east hedges form the parish boundary, to the hedge of Timbridge farm; and from thence the hedge between Timbridge and Holt Pieces down to Old Pound gate; from whence, down to the common gate into Chisbury lane, the north hedge of Bedwyn common is the parish boundary, on which lane the cottages and gardens are in Little Bedwyn. The boundary then lies along the south hedge of the meadow opposite farmer Wickham's house to a ditch running through Park copse and Darbys Rags into Hill field, and along the western hedge of Hill field across the road from Great Bedwyn to Froxfield, down the hedge which separates the two fields called Spains and round the water meadow to the bottom of the Spain belonging to Great Bedwyn, across the canal to the spot from whence the perambulators set out. B[enjamin] Newton, vicar, John Gillmore, impropiator of Froxfield and curate of Shalbourne, Edward Harris, churchwarden of Little Bedwyn.

The bridge over the canal at Forebridge began building the beginning of September and finished the later end of October 1796; it took 150,000 bricks. The draw bridge over the canal began building 21 Feb 1797. The lock at the end of the barn began building 17 Mar 1797, but from various causes was not completed till Jun 1798; it took more than 300,000 bricks. The first boat loaded with bricks for Oakhill lock passed through it 12 Jul 1798. The young elms in the field were planted Jan 1799 and died in Feb 1799, excepting 5.

LITTLE CHEVERELL

General register, 1654-1714 (1725/1)

This register book bought 21 Dec 1654, containing 23 sheets of parchment beside the paper cost 3s.

LITTLE HINTON**General register, 1649-1740 (1364/36)**

John Smith of Little Hinton sworn parish register before William Sadler and Gabriel Martin, 7 Aug 1654.

LITTLE LANGFORD**General register, 1699-1766 (1421/1)**

This register book with a copy whereof from 1 May 1699 to 1 May 1700 was carried in to the justices at the Blue Boar in Sarum 5 Jun 1700, being Wednesday. W Powell, rector. *For taxation purposes relating to births, marriages and deaths under the Act of 1693/4.*

LITTLE SOMERFORD**General register, 1708-1812 (1149/1)**

Copy trust deed of the church house, Church close 1a, and $\frac{1}{4}$ a of meadow called Haywards Plot, 2 Aug 1689, conveyed by William White esq of Little Somerford to Edmund Pleydell esq, Thomas Powell, Francis Baskerville, Lucian Brown, Henry Smith gents, Henry Jacobs clerk, John Stump, Thomas Sloper, Richard Stump younger, John West younger, John Mills, all of Little Somerford. Copy made 31 Jul 1722; witnesses, Richard Copson, rector of Brinkworth, Isaac Reekes, rector of Great Somerford, Nicholas Fenn, rector of Little Somerford.

As above 14 May 1729 by Thomas Powell gent of Maudits Park in Little Somerford and John West to Henry Bowes earl of Berks, Alice White Winchcombe, Howard Packer, Edward Escourt, Thomas Morton Pleydell esquires, Thomas Brown, William Greenfield, Roger Gauntlet, John Sloper, Andrew Heath gents, Jonas Alloway, John Collingbourne, Robert Pantinge all of Little Somerford. Copy made 28 Jul 1729. Witnesses; Nicholas Fenn, rector of Little Somerford, William Pulsford, rector of Seagry, Charles Carwithen, curate of Great Somerford, Simon West.

LONGBRIDGE DEVERILL**General register, 1737-1763 (1020/3)**

29 Oct 1737 I received of William Sanger 13s for this book, John Langford, Warminster.

LONG NEWNTON *Transferred to Gloucestershire in 1930***General register, 1648-1739 (GA P229 IN 1/1)** *A gathering of two books.*

This book was lost 24 years. *On inside of front cover.*

John Morgan sworn as parish register before George Ivey, 21 Jun 1654. To the worthy Mrs Bullocke in Westport.

Epitaph on the stone on which is this inscription on the brass plate thereon: Hic prope lapidem dextra parte iacet Nicholaus White qui primo obtinuet de Monasterio Malmesburia sepulturam ?mortuarium fieri in hac ecclesia et cemeterio; huius animea propitiatur Deus. Amen. *Under this stone on the right side lies Nicholas White who first obtained from Malmesbury abbey the right of burying in this church and churchyard.*

Hic iacet Dominus Johannes Erton quondam Rector huius Ecclesiae qui obiit decimo sexto die Januarii Anno Domini millesimo quingentesimo tertio; huius animae propitiatur deus. Amen. *Here lies Dom John Erton once rector of this church who died 6 Jan 1503 [1504 new style]. God have mercy on his soul Amen. John resigned as rector in 1497 [D1/2/13 f 25]. An illustration of the brass is in Kite.*

Notes by John Giles, rector.

'1683 There was such a froste that all the greate rivers of England were frozen over & it was the hardest and longest that was known in this nation. *Note of the death of Charles II.*

1684 was a very drie summer and so was the following year 1685, but the year ended in a very mild winter.

1687 An extreame wet harvest; it rained 8 days together without intermission.

1688 upon 25 March There was such an inundation the lands bordering upon the river Seavern that many Cattle and sheep were drowned and much damage done in many Cellars in Bristol: it being the greatest flood that ever was known or is mentioned in records or historys.

King William landed November 5 1688.

1689 A very drie summer And about the beginning of August there was such a prodigious storme

of haile that it beate out all the corne out of the eare and beate it into the ground and the damage amounted to a thousand pounds & upwards.

1696 About the middle of July it rained very hard for threescore and ?over hours, which caused such a land flood that the violence did vast damage to all the lands & meadows bordering upon the Rivers so much that it forcd away down the currents several summer ricks and it's generally reported it did many thousands of pounds of damage upon the Avon and Thames and many other Rivers.

3 May 1698 It snowed very much.

1699 An extraordinary dry summer, there being no rain in many places from March to St James Eve in July' [24th]

Note of the death of William III and the accession of Anne, 'begins the happy reign of Anne', and of the victories against the Spanish and French fleets under Admiral Sir James Rooke, Admiral Benbow and Captain Lake in Newfoundland and on land in Flanders under the Duke of Marlborough down to 1707.

'November 27th 1703 There began such an horrible tempestuous wind with Earthquake and Hurricane about one of the clock in the morning and continued untill seven that morning and blewd down many houses, Barns and trees, and many people were knockd on the head in London and other places, eleven men of warre were cast away and some hundreds of merchant

ships and Lighters, and it raised the Severn so high, that it overflowed its banks and drown'd all the country that way upon the Levell between Gloucester and Bristoll and likewise in Somersetshire, Monmouthshire and Glamorganshire with losse of many peoples' lives, their houses being washed down with the sea, together with a vast unaccountable losse of Cattle and sheep. It being the most general calamitie that ever this nation felt. Neither can we find any parrallel of it in our Chronicles.

1704 In this happie year This nation had many remarkable occurances of God's Providence in giving good successe and victory to our Armies & Fleets. *Details of the military success culminating in the battle of Blenheim and the taking of Gibraltar*

1705 This year begun with a very drie spring and summer, there being little rain from March to July 16: The grasse being burned and scorched up with the sun & much late sown corn never came up the ground being so dry & hard but the winter was very mild there being no snow nor but little frost.

1706 This year begun with a very early spring which produced greate plenty of Corn and hay.

1707 This year began with a very dry Spring there being little or no rain to refresh the Earth from February to the 21 May. And much land was unsown with barley till the raine and that which was sown did not come up until the Earth was moistened with showers, and the Clodds were so baked and fastened with the drie weather that much corn (especially beanes and pease and some barley) rotted under the Earth and never came up, and yet there was a plentiful harvest. The late sowed corn came up and was ripe and cutt and carried in 3 months or by the latter end of August. The late sowed corn being green in eare by 3 or 4 days of violent hot weather all the barley was full ripe to the admiration of all people by God's providence.

General register, 1785-1812 (GA P229 IN 1/3)

Benefactions: By the will of Mrs Anne Estcourt, 1704; £30 pa, payable out of her estates in Long Newnton to apprentice 6 poor boys from Long Newnton, Shrewton and Rolleston; £10 pa to the poor of Long Newnton; £10 pa to the rector and his widow, if she survives him, provided she has 1 or more children living at the time of his death: This annuity to the rector to be suspended in case of him being non resident, and to be kept and laid up in, that case, for his successor; 6 quarters of coal annually for the use of the parish school; £4 towards apprenticing 1 girl and 1 boy annually; a house for the use of the parish clerk; a house for the use of the parish school.

Will of Mrs Eilzabeth Hodges 1723; £2 pa payable out of her estates in Shipton Moyne towards teaching poor children to read.

Notes of receipt of £10 out of the estate of Thomas Estcourt for the second poor, 1795, 1796, 1797, 1799 (£20), and 1800 by Edward Estcourt, rector.

LUCKINGTON

General register, 1653-1677 (1108/2)

Nicholas Waddington, clerk of Luckington sworn as parish register before Thomas Estcourt, 13 Apr 1654.

Copy Act Touching Marriages, Births and Burials, 1653.

28 Oct 1664 John Newman was inducted into the rectory by Mr Russell in the presence of Mr John Fitzherbert esq, William Alexander and James Palmer, churchwardens, Ethelbred Howell, Simon Jordan, and many others. At the same time he read out the 39 Articles at the next Sunday.

LUDGERSHALL *The registers remain in the parish; microfiche copies are available in WSHC.*

General register, 1609-1653.

To the reader; Gentle reader play the part of Momus [*god of ridicule*] to carp at this.

Evans Dawes chosen as parish register, 20 Nov 1653. Henry Cusse, minister.

General register, 1653-1696

25 Mar 1671 James Edington chosen register by John Torbuck, rector.

29 Jul 1686 these are to certify all those that may or do concern that Moses Kinfield of Fifield in Enford bought of John Kinfield of Chisenbury three stone horses and one 'geldon' [*gelded horse*]; the 'geldon' has a star in the forehead, the near foot behind is white and he is a bay coloured. The three stone horses are black, one has a small star in the forehead. Witness Peter Mundy senior. This being done in our corporation by John Cames 'towlsy'. *This is presumably the record of a sale at Ludgershall fair. The borough of Ludgershall was claimed by its inhabitants to have a formal status, although this appears unfounded.*

General register, 1697-1755.

The gallery was built in 1727 and cost for building and painting £20 15s.

General register, 1754-1812.

A new church bible and surplice bought Feb 1764.

1764 The water run out of the duke of Chandos' cellar at Biddesdon and run all through Appleshaw very strong and dry again before the month of May.

1 Jan 1779 the Revd John Selwyn, rector coming to reside at Ludgershall about this time and finding the parish registers had been very irregularly kept, and much abused, and considering them as public records, of great utility and importance to mankind, undertook the care of them himself; at the same time earnestly requesting that his successors, rectors of this parish would never commit them to the care of an ignorant and illiterate parish clerk: but have so much regard for posterity as to make all entries themselves in a regular and orderly manner.

LYDIARD TREGOZE**General register, 1781-1812 (920/4)**

Voluntary contributions towards the exigencies of the state, collected in the parish of Lydiard Tregoze, Wilts, May 1798:

Revd Miles, rector £10 10s; Lady Bolingbroke £5 5s; Revd Dr Collins £5 5s; Mr Iles £10; Mr Matthews £5 5s; Mr Vivash £5 5s; Mr Richard Bradford £5 5s; Revd Wetherell, curate £1 1s; Mr Dore £1 1s; Mr Rudler £1 1s; Mr Richard Dore King £1 1s; Mr Weston £1 1s; Mrs Ann Dore 10s 6d; Miss Edwards 10s 6d; Mrs Bound 10s 6d; Mr Baden 20s 6d; Mr Lock 10s 6d; Mr Wody 5s; Mr Jesse Wilson 2s 6d; John Templer 2s 6d; Frances Clark 1s; Thomas Draper 1s; William Besant 1s; John Barret 1s; Elizabeth Richings 1s; Mary Edwards 1s; Mary Allen 1s; Miriam Haskins 1s; Sarah Lewis 6d; William Hutchings 6s; Thomas Blake 6d; Adam Tuck 6d; William Titcombe 1s; Thomas Hunt 6d. Total £55 14s. *Receipt from the Bank of England of this sum, 14 May 1798.*

LYNEHAM**General register, 1653-1708 (1161/1)**

‘Wiltshere. Be it remebred that whereas the parishioners of Lineham in the said County have chosen Richard Chapperlyn an Inhabitant of the said parish to be their parish Register as appeareth by a Certificate under their hands we William Eyre, William Sadler, Edward Stokes & Wm Shute, justices of the peace of the said County doe hereby approve of the said Richard Chapperlyn to be parishe Register of Lineham aforesaid. And we have according to the tenor of an Act in that case lately made & provided sworne him duly to exonerate the said office in signification whereof we have hereunto set our handes the five and twentieth day of November Sixteene Hundred Fiftie and three. William Sadler, William Eyre, Edward Stokes, Wm Shute. *Extracts from the Act Touching Marriages, Birth and Burials, effective from 29 Sep 1653.*

Be it remembered that on 10 Mar 1655 Thomas Huntly the elder, Thomas Browne the elder, churchwardens, did appoint that the said Thomas Browne should have a seat for one man in the men’s seat that is betwixt Mr Callie’s seat and the said Thomas Huntlys seat in Lynham church, in lieu of the seat the Thomas Browne formerly had in the new seat belonging to Bradenstoke and John Gibbs. Witnessed by me Richard Chapperlyn, register.

Appointments of churchwardens (C), overseers of the poor (O) and supervisors of the highways (S), showing the system of appointment by estates in the parish. From 1665 to the end of the list in 1703, apart from 1677, the appointments of overseers and supervisors are for the tithings of Tockenham (West Tockenham), Preston, Lyneham and Clack. Only those giving the officers’ farms are included below. *See Introduction p xix for an explanation of the references to Winterbourne Bassett.*

1655 (C) Thomas Butler for the late Robert Tuck's, John Coobery for widow Rachel Burchall. (O) John Weeks, Thomas Huntley, Thomas Browne for Jacob's in Town and Anne Pullin wid. (S) William Bristow for Sparrow's, John Gibbs, Henry Lanfere, John Griffin for Newnton's.

1656 (C) & (O) as 1655. (S) Jefferey Pinnol gent, John Broome for his grandmother, Robert Wayte for Say's, Adam Bush for Mr Hollidaies.

1657 (C) John Burchall for Mr Button's at Preston, Giles Browne for Robert Barnes'.

(O) William Bristowe for widow Tarrant's, Richard Jacobb's, Thomas Butler for the late Robert Tuck's. (S) Richard Huntley senior, Edmund Burchall, Thomas Luton.

1658 (C) Richard Jacobb, Henry Browne. 'They passd their accompt till the 16 of May 1659.' (O) William Cally gent for Mrs Pugh's, Robert for widow Russell's, Richard Harbert for Captain Webb's. They passed their account until 28 Mar 1660. (S) Edward Burchall for (West) Tockenham, - Pearce for Richard Broomes. Thomas Burchall for Preston, William Vines for Clack.

1659 (C) Henry Lanfere, William Bristowe, They passed their account until 14 May 1660. (O) Robert Harper for Mr Saunders', John Burchall for Esq Button's, John Griffin, John Arnold for Margaret his mother. They passed their account until 23 Apr 1660.

(S) Giles Brown for Robert Barnes', Thomas for Preston, Edmund Burchall for [West] Tockenham, William Vines for Clack.

1660 (C) Robert Wayte for John Sayes, John Broome for his uncle, Richard Broome. They passed their account until 29 Apr 1661. (O) Giles Browne for Eleanor Barnes widow, William Bristowe <for the widow Tarrant> for his copyhold, Samuel Beckett, Jeffrey Alexander. They passed their account until 22 Apr 1661. (S) Ralph Titcombe for Esq Button, Richard Bridges for Thomas Burchall, John Griffin for that late Newnton's, Thomas Browne for Richard Jacobbs' house that he lives in.

1661 (C) John Broome for his grandmother Elizabeth Broome, Robert <Burden for the widow Russell's> Waite for Mr Saies. They passed their account til 12 May 1662, and another account to 22 Sep 1662. (O) Edmund Birchall, Francis Hobbs, Adam Bushe for Richard Piniger's land, William Vines. They passed their account til 24 Mar 1661 and so long for Winterbourne (Bassett). (S) Ralph Titcombe for Esq Button, Richard Bridges for Thomas Burchall, John Griffin for late Newnton's, Thomas Browne for Clack.

1662 (C) Robert Burden, John Griffin for Newnton's. They passed their account until the last (day) of Oct 1663, but the clerk (was) paid til 21 Sep 1663. (O) Ralph Titcombe for Mr Button's, William Reeve for Thomas Bathe's, Humphrey Goodman for [West] Tockenham, George Birtch for the George in Clack. They passed their account to 20 Apr 1663. And for Winterbourne [Bassett] but until 25 Mar 1663. (S) Robert Harper for Edward Saunders', John Burchall for Preston, Anne Pullyn widow for [West] Tockenham, Thomas Browne for Clack.

1663 (C) Edmund Burchall for his own, Ralph Titcombe for Esq Button, Lyneham. They passed their account to 10 Jun 1664. The clerk had then his wages in arrear only 15s.

(O) John Stratton for Lyneham Court, Richard Pyniger for his leasehold,

Richard Guyinnes alias Grymore for his own. They passed their account until 18 Apr 1664. And from Winterbourne [Bassett] to 23 Mar 1664. (S) Thomas Butler for the late Robert Tuckes Lyneham, Robert Burden for the widow Russell Preston, Simon Foord for Capt Webb's [West] Tockenham, John Arnold for Margaret his mother for Clack.

1664 (C) Andrew Heth, Jeffrey Burden for Anne Pullin widow. (O) Richard Huntly, Nathaniel Burchal for his father, Thomas Luton, Richard Harbart for John Piniger's. They passed their account til 20 Mar 1665. And Winterbourne [Bassett] paid until the 22nd of the same March. (S) William Bawdry, William Bristow the younger for his mother's, Richard Piniger.

1669 The accounts of Gilles Browen and Robt Titcombe and Adam Alexander and Hugh Jones, being Overseers for the year aforesaid did not in debt to the parish.

1677 (O) John Cobery for Blindmill, William Bushell for Mr Button. (S) Robert Burden for Mr Saunders, William Burchall for Preston, Ralph Titcombe for Cranley, John Pinniger for Capt Webb's.

Memo that the 27 May 1661 there was delivered by the last churchwardens and overseers unto Adam Bushe, one of this years overseers (to be safely kept during his office) these bonds and an apprenticeship indenture following: one bond of Nathaniel and Thomas Burchall for the payment of £10 12s, 21 Dec 1652; one bond of Mr William Calley and Richard Huntly for the payment of £10 12s, 2 May 1660; one bond of £50 of Anthony Cockle and William Cockle for performance of an order for payment to Joan Skull's bastard; one indenture by which Margaret Quintyn is bound apprentice to Grace Hayes widow, dated 19 Apr 1661; one bond of John Gibbs for payment of £5 when that any apprentice is chargeable to the inhabitants of the parish of Lyneham; one sessions order for Winterbourne parish to pay 2s 6d per week toward the relief of the poor of Lyneham. *For this last document see Introduction p xix.*

Memo that the 19 May 1662 all the six writings which the last year were kept by Adam Bush and one bond for the discharge of the parish of the burden that now Rebecca Gibbens is with child which being of the penalty of £50 sealed by William Garlicke senior, were all handed to Humphrey Goodman, one of the overseers of the poor, to be kept by him during the time of his office: And one indenture by which William Lanfere is bound apprentice to Samuel Teackle of Tetbury [Gloucs].

24 Mar 1668 Edward Bawdry is by the parish of Lyneham elected register, and thereby empowered to keep this book being the register book of this parish for the use of the parish.

1675 'William Bendery do hold the churchyard at the price of three pounds. Ther is 10s allowd for to mend the boundes.'

16 Apr 1677 received of William Bristow and Andrew Hearth the sum of £5, which money was gave by Mrs Jane Long for the use of the parish of Lyneham; received by me John Cobery [overseer].

A particular account of the several sums of money which each impropiator of Lyneham is obliged by a late decree in Chancery to pay yearly to the vicar of Lyneham out of several parts and portions enjoyed by the impropiators, the first half years stipend being to be paid March 26th 1683: the lady Button is liable to pay yearly £1 3s 4d; Mr Pleidal £5 17 9d; Mr Tuck £3 10s 6d; Mr Compton £1 3s 4d; Mr Coobery 13s; Mrs Bristow 11s 10d. Total £12 19s 9d.

John Sheapheard receiver general of my oblations and Garden pence. *This is a reference to the payments due to the incumbent. See WRS vol 56 p 271*

14 Apr 1696 John Broom, one of the overseers for the last year, received then of Andrew Heath senior the sum of £5 being moneys paid by John Bernard towards the placing of John Goff's bastard apprentice.

General register, 1708-1737 (1161/2) *In this and following registers down to 1812 occupations and tithings are given.*

Thomas Butler chosen parish clerk, 13 Jan 1724. *Described as a carpenter and clerk of West Tockenham in his son's baptismal record 24 Aug 1729. Signed title page of next register dated 1737.*

Lyneham Sarah Watkins a bastard child found Jan 18 hanged up upon a tree in a basket baptised 21 Jan 1711.

General register, 1737-1760 (1161/3)

25 Mar 1781 Thomas Butler parish clerk.

MALMESBURY

Burials of parish clerks; Thomas Richardson, 8 Feb 1598; Robert Wood 'mine old honest clarke', 9 Aug 1635; Roger Gastrell, 7 Nov 1742; William Fry, 7 May 1805; Henry Johnson alias Bartholemew, sexton, 13 Aug 1644. From parish registers 1589/1-8.

General register, 1590-1627 (1589/1)

28 Feb 1608 John Beadford, Richard Vaysey, William Tull, and Mathew Alexander paid 2s a piece for their seats in the church in the third seat, John Bedford, Mathew Alexander and Roger Smith being churchwardens. Henry Venne paid 2s also. <Ambrose Motley paid 12d for a seat>

1612 John Play paid for a seat in the church to Richard Vaisie and Henry Palmer churchwardens 12d. Henry Burgman is removed in a seat up at the chancel for a seat he had below the church.

1615 Memo Mr Edward Hungerford gave 2s unto the church that the stone upon his late brother John's grave should not be removed; Ed Saunders and Walter Grale paid 18d a piece to the churchwardens for their seats in the chancel by the consent of Mathew Wattes vicar and ?William Berry, Walter Neale and Francis Reeve churchwardens.

1617 William Grayle paid 12d for a seat for his wife in the church by the consent of the churchmen Thomas Ridler, Walter Younge and the same Wil-

liam Grayle; David Smith junior Walter Broadborrowe paid for 2 seats in the church 18d a piece; John Holborowe for one seat 12d, Richard Pantinge for a seat for his wife 12d; Arthur Fauscott for 2 seats 12d, Ambrose Motly for a seat 12d with the consent of the said churchwardens. Mr Briggens paid the 1 Feb 1618 for the seat which was Mr Hungerford's 10s and is to continue for the same so long as he holds the same always 1 Feb yearly.

1612. There is a bond delivered in the chest by Richard Vasie, Henry Palmer and Richard Dolle, churchwardens, of 40s that was given in stock to remain for ever and to be set forth to use every year by the churchwardens, conditionally the use every Good Friday shall be distributed to the poor of the town by the overseers of the poor; if it is not then by the will and testament of the giver Thomas Coxe of Purton they of the said parish may lawfully demand this stock of 40s to be redelivered back again if it be not employed accordingly. *Will proved 1609 [P3/C/143]*

Memo 22 Apr 1614 John Jaques and John Foscott of Milbourne received bond of £6 of Henry Hayward and Francis Rove of Milbourne for the payment of £3 6s to the use of the poor of Malmesbury, Westport and Milbourne to be paid next Good Friday after the said 22 Apr in the church porch of St Paul in Malmesbury; and the use of the same money shall continue to the use of the poor aforesaid.

Memo that I Thomas Fidoe, curate of Malmesbury did give and grant license to Emme Thorner, wife of John Thorner of Malmesbury gent to eat flesh in this time of the season of Lent, during the time of her sickness according to the form of the statute in that behalf made and provided. Witness my hand this 7 Mar 1622. By me Thomas Fidoe, curate.

Roger Jarrett, was licenced clerk of the parish 24 Aug 1635. *Signed the register in 1667 [1589/3]*

General register, 1626-1670 (1589/2) *Several notes have been obliterated over time by the gallic acid that was used to enhance them; fortunately Canon John Jackson made transcripts before they became illegible.*

Memo that John Combyl gave to Richard Panteing, Anthony Thorner and John Bemmes 12d upon 12 Dec 1629 to have his seat for himself.

8 Jul 1633 was inducted into the vicarage of Malmesbury William Latimer BA.

John Sheppard being licensed by the archbishop of Canterbury, preached in the parish church of St Pauls in Malmesbury 5 Oct 1635; signed John Sheppard. Edward Shaw, curate at Knighton upon Tame, Worcs, within the diocese of Hereford, licensed by Francis, late bishop of Hereford, preached in the parish church of St Pauls in Malmesbury 10 Jun 1638; signed Edward Shawe.

Licence [*In Latin*] to Mary Wayte, wife of William Wayte of Malmesbury,

merchant, to eat flesh at the time of Lent during her sickness caused by the plague (morbo), 6 Mar 1661. Simon Gawen, vicar. Witness Roger Jarrett, parish clerk.

Memo 9 Nov 1667 Mr Nicholas Adee late of Cricklade was inducted vicar by Mr [Andrew] Lenn minister of Cricklade.

General register, 1653-1662 (1589/3) *See also p 295.*

Mr Roger Harpur MA, chosen as parish register 10 Oct 1653, sworn before William Yorke, 11 Oct 1653.

Edmund Wayte, alderman and JP within the borough of Malmesbury approved Robert Harpur our minister as parish register, same date.

General register, 1676-1700 (1589/6)

5 Jul 1676 Mr John Benyon was inducted vicar of St Paul's in Malmesbury by Mr Abraham Griffin, rector of Garsdon, at whose request and at the solicitation of Abraham Huckings and his wife, he gave the widow of the late incumbent, Mr John Clark, a quarter's composition for tithe (which amounts to £15), and forgave her the dilapidations of the vicarage house, which cost him above as much more in workmanship, lime, new rafters, tiles, boards and other materials necessary for the reparation thereof. And having no seat for his family in the abbey church, about four years after he erected one adjoining to the east side of the stairs going up to the deck and pulpit, which cost him above £3. John Benyon.

Memo that upon the death of Robert Browning, clerk of Rodbourne, Giles Harding of Corston, day labourer and clerk of the chapel and village of Corston in the parish of Malmesbury, was elected and made clerk also of Rodbourne (another chapel and village in the said parish) by the sole election and nomination of John Benyon, vicar of Malmesbury. *Undated but between 1676 and 1685.*

17 Feb 1685 William Spencer of Corston in the parish of Malmesbury was then declared in the chapel of Corston (upon the death of Giles Harding, late clerk of Corston and Rodbourne in the parish of Malmesbury) to be clerk for the two chapels of Corston and Rodbourne; and he was elected and made clerk only by me John Benyon, vicar of Malmesbury.

28 Feb 1687 Nathaniel Speak of Cross Hayes in Malmesbury, broad weaver, was then declared in the Abbey church to be parish clerk of Malmesbury upon the death of Richard Evans, carpenter and the late parish clerk; the said Nathaniel Speak having been elected only by me. John Benyon, vicar of Malmesbury.

26 Feb 1688 Robert James of Malmesbury, silk weaver, was then declared to be the parish clerk of Malmesbury upon the death of Nathaniel Speak, broad weaver and the late parish clerk; the said Robert James having been elected only by me. John Benyon, vicar of Malmesbury. *Robert was buried 2 Nov 1729.*

General register, 1700-1755 (1589/7)

5 Dec 1707 I John Nichols, tailor, inhabitant of the little house in the churchyard which is by lease granted for some term of years to Henry Evans, do acknowledge that all the parcel of ground inclosed without the walls of the house is part of and does at all times belong to the churchyard of St Pauls in Malmesbury and that the lease was given me by the vicar to inclose the same and that I have no pretence thereto but by such lease nor claim to hold the same any longer than such lease is granted me. John Nichols. Witness Thomas Earle, vicar.

10 Apr 1714 I Henry Webb, shoemaker, now inhabitant of Anne Fletcher's house in the Butchers Row, do acknowledge that all that parcel of ground on the back side of the said house next the churchyard inclosed, is part of and does at all times belong to the churchyard of St Pauls in Malmesbury and that leave was given me by the vicar to enclose the same and that I had no pretence thereto but by such leave no claim to hold the same any longer than such leave is granted me by the vicar. Henry Webb. Witness Thomas Earle.

10 Apr 1733 all persons have immemorially, I presume, paid mortuaries according to the statute of Henry VIII throughout the whole parish of Malmesbury and such part of the parish of Westport that lies within the corporation of Malmesbury to the vicars or vicars of Malmesbury and Westport and have done so throughout all my time. Thomas Earle, vicar of Malmesbury and Westport. *With accounts of mortuary payments 1705-1749; the normal payment being 10s.*

MANNINGFORD ABBOTTS

General register, 1538-1732 (956/1)

Thomas Bromley was inducted into the rectory by Leonard Gibbins, clerk, 2 Oct 1597. *Gibbins was curate of Maiden Bradley and, from 1598, rector of Bromham [CCed]*

1608 memo that at the inclosing of the common of Manningford Abbots it was agreed by the lord of the manor, by the then incumbent Thomas Bromley and by the tenants thereof that the said Thomas Bromley should have in the right of the parsonage 3a, which lies in that part of the common which is called the Marsh, as appears by the terrier of the glebe which is in the registry of Sarum. By me Thomas Bromley, rector, Richard Hiller, Roger Blinckerne, churchwardens. *See WRS vol 56 p272.*

General register, 1732-1811 (956/2)

C[harles] A[dams] rector planted 30 ash trees in the acre belonging to the parsonage upon the common; 24 in the ground commonly called the Butt ground; and six in the churchyard. *Adams was rector 1741-1770*

On 21 Apr 1809 snow on the ground more than 12 inches deep. JB.

Memo churchyard bounds westward from Mr Astley's meadow formerly Fowle's, put in order always as follows: The first 2 perches Mr Hitchcock;

the 4 next FD Astley esq, 1 perch Reeve's; the next 3 FD Astley late Fowle's; 12 next Mr Washbourne; the stile, Mr Grant; 2 last Mr Washbourne. 24 Feb 1813. Francis B Astley rector.

MANNINGFORD BRUCE

General register, 1703-1797 (950/2)

The Rye field enclosed 1736. The road up the field indicted by Mr Wroughton at the Sessions held at Marlborough Oct 1777; begun to be made the year following; continued in 1779; completed 1782 at the expense of George Wells LLD [*Doctor of Law*], rector being surveyor the whole time and having the sole management in forming, making etc. *The parish was indicted at the Quarter Sessions for the repair of 1 mile of the road from Wilcot to Salisbury described as from Manningford pound to the bottom of Manningford hill. [A1/110/1777M].*

Richard Brown came in and acted as clerk of the parish 17 Apr 1737
Mr Nicholas rector died 27 Apr 1722. John Wells rector buried 9 Jun 1763.
George Wells rector died 28 Aug 1815.

MARDEN

General register, 1685-1770 (510/1)

1673 A rate made for £10 3s 4d: Vicarage 14s 5d; Little Farm £1 4s 10d; Mr Raymond 2s 7d; Great Farm £2 19s 6d; Parsonage £1 8s 8d; Richard Smith 2s 7d; Amors 5s 4d; Robert Moxums 4s 4d; William Moxums 4s 4d; William Holloway 8s; William Phelps 1s 6d; Richard Carpenter £1 8s; Jackles 6s 6d; Robert Burdens 1s 1d; Ed Hampshire 6s 6d; Roger Lavington 6s 5d; William Lavington 9s 8d; William Clark 5s 6d; Alexanders 4d; Widow Brights 2s 7d; Tilers 8d. *Probably a poor rate; there are two undated rates, c1690.*

George Bradford instituted as vicar 11 Sep 1685.

?1687 Rate made for the placing of poor children gathered £8 2s 4d: Great farm £2; parsonage £1; Vicarage 10s; Little farm 17s>Robert Burden 1s 2d<; Jackels 4s 9d; Raymond for Brights 2s; William Clacke 4s; William Lavington 6s 6d; William Holloways 6s; Widow Amor 4s; Ed Hampshire 4s 10d; >Roger Lavington 4s 10d<; Richard Smith 2s; William Moxham 3s 2d; Robert Moxham 3s 2d; William Philips 1s 3d; Widow Bright 6d; Thomas Phelps 6d; William Tackle 6d; Widow Alexander 4d.

Laid out for the year 1703 in all £5 9s 10d, and from that year 7s 4d; the churchwardens for the year 1703 to make up their account must gather £2 16s 2d.

MARLBOROUGH ST MARY

General register, 1602-1623 (1050/1).

'No solemnizac[i]on of mariage fro[m]
 Advent Sunday til the 8th day after Epiphany (Hillary)
 Septuagesima Sunday til the first sund after Easter
 Rogation Sunday til Trinity sund be past
 This last tyme is not forbid but onely ferm[d] by Co[u]nsol of Trent
 That a copy of the Register booke is every year to be exhibited after ladyday
 within one month, els they forfeit 12d.
 You may mary the very day whensoever wedding goes out.'

Copy of a bond of obligation by William Clarke that he will pay unto Walter Jones, in his house in Marlborough, 40s on 1 Aug 1622. witnesses William Blissett, William Tallbut, Thomas Randell, Thomas Titcombe. *The document was copied three times, each version slightly different, no doubt as a practice for the clerk.*

'To make red Incke: Take one ounce of brasell and put to it six sponnefulls of verges and halfe quartorne of an ounce of gume boyle them to gather sume 3 or 4 times aboute and it is enough.

To make greene Incke: Take halfe an ounce verdegresse put to it 3 or 6 sponnefulls of verges 3 blades of English saffron and one sponnefulls of the Joyce Arbegrace A litle quantitie of gume 24 houres after it shall be good.

To make yellow Incke: Take the quarter of the yoke of egg and a sponnefull or to of verges and a little gume one pennie worth of saffron beate together these and then lett stand sume 12 houres then straine it through Cloth.'

General register, 1623-1687 (1050/2). *There are several undated unspecified accounts*

Memo that Walter Jones was made choice of approved and sworn to have the keeping of this book for registering herein all publications for marriages, all births of children and burials of all sorts of people in the parish of St Mary in Marlborough according to the Act lately made; chosen 20 Sep 1653, sworn 28 Sep 1653 by John Lawrence, Thomas Hunt and William Blissett. *Walter Jones continued as parish clerk until 1679; he was buried 21 Jul 1684.*

A note of the names of the Ministers for the Saturday lecture: Mr Hughes, Mr Bryfield, Mr Chambers, Mr Prophet, Mr Simkins, Mr Norris, Mr Clerk, Mr Harrison, Mr Hounsell, Mr Taylor, Mr Webb, Mr Brown, Mr Burley. Mr Brefet, Mr Constable, Mr Keninmond, Mr Waterman, Mr Quinting, Mr Henley, Mr Bailly, Mr Croft, Mr Hobbes, Mr Miles, Mr Norris, Mr Smith, Mr Baxter, Mr Charlet, Mr Shotter, Mr Bird, Mr Eatwell. *The lists are undated but from the handwriting are probably c 1675. They may be clerics and possibly schoolmasters, perhaps including Thomas Hobbes the philosopher, eligible to give the lecture.*

Simon Hawkins is to pay Smith 20s a year or to live at his house gratis till he can get forth his son in law out of his house.

General register, 1702-1715 (1050/4)

The widow Boucher grave in the church 6 Aug 10s. *Elizabeth was buried 6*

Aug 1713.

Mr John Bayly child grave in the church 30 Aug 5s. *Elizabeth his daughter was buried 5 Jul 1703.*

General register, 1721-1745 (1050/5)

'December the 8 1740 Francis Phillips Elected Sexstone of St Mary the Virgin in Marlborough in the County of Wilts, December the 8 1740'

The churchwardens granted a certificate to William Weeks son 14 Feb 1742.

26 & 17 Sep 1745 45 wagons of gold and silver that we took from the French came through Marlborough. *Probably spoils from the War of Austrian Succession.*

A list of the churchyard rents quarterly: Mr Lucas 10s; Mr Martin 5s; Mrs Fowler 5s; Mr Pidding 5s; Mr Williams 5s 6d; Mr Smith 15s; Mr Secker 15s; Mrs Newbyes 11s 3d; Mr Dance 5s; Mr Thomas Dance 6s; Mr Thomas Turner 4s 3d; Mr Wrathband 1s 3d; Mrs Smith 2s 6d; Mrs Greenfield 2s 6d; Mrs Hurlbutt 4s; Mr Thomas Hurlbutt 2s 6d; Mr Steven Gilmore 6d; Total £5 3d. *Undated but probably c 1740.*

'Ebenezer Broaker of Midhurst in Sussex near Petworth and Chifester, his father in law was Saml. Mariner lethur dresser, to rite to Mr Thos Heathur attorney.'

General register, 1751-1785 (1050/6)

13 Sep 1765 Revd John Clerk inducted into the vicarage of St Mary's Marlborough by me Thomas Meyler.

5 Apr 1766 Revd Henry Whinfield inducted into the vicarage of St Mary's Marlborough by me Thomas Meyler [*rector of Marlborough St Peter and Paul*]

MARLBOROUGH ST PETER AND ST PAUL

General register, 1611-1662 (1050/15)

'Here is to be noted that the Regester was gave to the Clark of St Peters in the town of Malburgh to be kept strickt as that every one that is born, buried or christned should be sett down strait after so that if anyone should come to know the birth or chrisning or buriall of any one if so they may find itt. Given by us witnesses [*blank*], Thomas Daws, John Gaile.' *Probably 1653 or 1654.*

Henry Westell, chosen parish register 20 Sep 1653, sworn before John Lawrence, mayor, Thomas Hunt, William Blissett, 28 Sep 1653.

General register, 1663-1690 (1050/16)

Memo that there is yearly payable from the churchwardens of this parish of St Peter in Marlborough unto the rector of the same the sum of 10s for a tenement that was anciently annexed to the chancel of the parish church.

Memo that my lord Seymour and the owners of the Castle house that succeed him are by composition to pay to the rector of this parish yearly the sum of

16s for their seat that stands upon the chancel ground in the parish church. Joshua Sacheverell, rector.

Memo that Mr Humphry Wall and his heirs, occupants of the dwelling and lands formerly known by the sign of The Bear, are by composition to pay the rector of this parish yearly at Easter the sum of 10s for their seat in the south corner of the chancel. Joshua Sacheverell, rector. *Sacheverell was rector 1669-1684.*

General register, 1678-1704 (1050/17)

William Silk, parish clerk ?1678. John Brabant, parish clerk 1682.

General register, 1690-1714 (1050/18) *Numerical code on frontispiece.*

John Brabant parish clerk 1690.

14 Oct 1694 Mr Farwell Parry, read all the Articles with the service of the church at Little Bedwyn. Witnesses: Mr Savery, Mr Hide, Mark Ligg, John Brabant. *Parry was rector of Marlborough St Peter and vicar of Little Bedwyn, 1694-1723.*

General register, 1714-1743 (1050/19)

Notes about the family of Robert Clavering MA, Christ Church Oxford, was inducted into the rectory of Marlborough St Peter 14 Sep 1723 and into the vicarage of Preshute 25 Sep 1727. *Details of his marriage and children including Algermon, born 13 Oct 1729, later vicar of Broad Hinton.*

General register, 1705-1774 (1050/20)

3 Aug Mr Buckreg for Mrs Hunt's grave 10s. *Elizabeth wife of Richard Hunt was buried 2 Aug 1710.*

General register, 1774-1812 (1050/21)

A list of subscribers towards purchasing and defraying the expense of erecting the organ in Marlborough St Peter 1776: Thomas Meyler, rector, John Sherwood and John Brinsdon churchwardens; nb opened 10 Mar 1776: Lord Bruce £3 3s; Hon James Brudenell and Sir James Tylney Long, members for the borough £5 5s; Revd Mr Meyler £1 1s; Mr Charles Bill mayor -; Mr John Baverstock, alderman £1 1s; Mr Thomas Warner, alderman £1 1s; Mr Thomas Dansie, victualler £1 1s; Mr James White, victualler £1 1s; Mr John Neate, gent 10s 6d; Mr William Westmacott, apothecary 10s 6d; Mrs Anne Liddiard, gentlewoman 10s 6d; Mr Benjamin Merriman, brewer, 10s 6d; Mr Henry Hill, upholsterer £1; Mr Nathaniel Merriman, maltster 10s 6d; Miss Pugh, schoolmistress 10s 6d; Miss Katherine Fleming, dancing mistress 10s 6d; Mr Charles Creace, coachmaker 10s 6d; Mrs Leyshon, gentlewoman 10s 6d; Mr Thomas Hancock, coachmaker 10s 6d; Mr Charles Higham <...> 5s 3d; Thomas Rogers, carpenter 5s; Miss Hope, gentlewoman 5s; Miss Norris milliner 5s 3d; Mr Cawsey, exciseman 5s 3d; Mrs Wells, shopkeeper 5s; Mr Pockocke, shopkeeper 5s; Mr Day, cabinet maker 2s 6d; Mr Garlick, surgeon 5s 3d; Mrs Samuel Higham, gentlewoman 10s 6d; Miss Cripps, milliner 5s; Mr William Fuidge, alderman 10s 6d; Mr Chalk, staymaker 2s 6d; Miss Burgess,

gentlewoman 2s 6d; Mr Edmund Gregory, barber 2s 6d; Mr John Martin, victualler 5s; Mr John Smith, printer 2s 6d; Mrs Reeves, victualler 2s 6d; Mr Francis Brathwaite, brewer 10s 6d; Mr Thomas Appleford, wheelwright 5s 3d; Mr Vincent Head, victualler 5s; Mr John White, schoolmaster 2s 6d; Edward Rogers, carpenter 5s; Miss Few, mantua maker 2s 6d; Messrs Hammond, carpenters 5s; Mr Anderson, victualler 2s 6d; Mrs Anderson, victualler 2s 6d; Mr Daniel Dixon, victualler 10s 6d; Mr Bartholemew Joyce, farrier 5s; Mr John Shrimpton, basket maker 2s 6d; Mr John Norris, victualler 2s 6d; Mr John Brown, victualler 2s 6d; Mr James Porter, victualler 10s 6d; Mr James Brewer, victualler 10s 6d.

St Peter's church was first ceiled 1784. Thomas Meyler, rector, Daniel Dixon, Henry Goodman, churchwardens.

The walks from the east gate of the churchyard to the north door of the chancel to the great south door of the church were newly gravelled in May 1777; John Sherwood and John Wentworth, churchwardens.

A copy of extracts from several register books belonging to this parish and the answers sent 3 Aug 1782 by Revd Thomas Meyler, rector, to several articles of enquiry proposed by Revd J Howlett of Maidstone, Kent who (as his letter set forth) was collecting materials to refute the gloomy and dispiriting accounts we repeatedly had of the depopulation of England and Wales, and to establish the opposite and more pleasing doctrine of the greatly increased number of our inhabitants since the revolution: *There follows a table of the annual numbers of baptisms, marriages and burials in Marlborough St Peter and Paul for three periods between 1688-1779.* Baptisms in the period 1688-1707 651; burials 538: In the period 1730-1749 550 baptisms; 600 burials: In the period 1760-1779 856 baptisms; 636 burials. Total: 2057 baptisms; 1174 burials. The baptisms exceed the burials by 283; whence it may reasonably be concluded the number of inhabitants must have been increased during the whole of the period, though the burials exceeded the baptisms in the middle period. 2nd query answered died of the smallpox in the year 1775 33; in other years uncertain.

3rd query answered number of inhabitants by accurate enumeration 1109.

4th query answered quota furnished to serve the national militia 6.

5th query answered total number of houses in the parish from actual survey 226.

6th query answered of which are charged to the Window tax and 3s House duty 150.

7th query answered number of families 231.

Revd John Howlett was an economist and writer on the poor. He published Dispersions of the Gloomy Apprehensions in 1797. See DNB article.

1 Oct 1784 Marlborough St Peter weddings (15) 3s 9d; baptisms (42) 10s 9d; burials (25) 6s 3d; total £1 6d Preshute weddings (5) 1s 3d; baptisms (20) 5s; burials (14) 3s 9d; total 9s 9d Savernake Park weddings (3) 9d; baptisms (5) 1s 3d; total 2s. Total £1 12 3d; 2s 3d to be carried forward to the next year. *Sums collected under The Stamp Duty Act on Burials Marriages and Christenings,*

1783, which act is summarised in the register.

MARSTON MAISEY

General register, 1742-1812 (GA P211/2 IN 1/1)

Transcript of the sentence of consecration of the church by the bishop of Gloucester, 1742. The chapel of St James at Marston Meysey has been in ruins and the inhabitants at their own expense have repaired the building, built about 100 years ago, to serve again as their chapel. It is 40 ft long and 17½ ft wide. They have enclosed part of the adjoining ground, measuring 63 by 38 ft, used formerly as a burial ground. They have raised £200 and the support of Queen Anne's Bounty to endow the chapel and maintain a curate, who will be nominated by the rector of Maiseyhampton and licensed by the bishop of Gloucester and their successors. The building is to be consecrated as St James' Chapel, as is the enclosed ground and any other part of the adjoining ground that was used as a place of burial. The inhabitants are to maintain the premises and choose, each year, two chapelwardens, one named by the curate, the other by the inhabitants; to be sworn in at Visitation following when they are to pay 6d to the archdeacon for Pentacostalls. A register of baptisms, marriages and burials is to be kept. There is to be no detriment or loss to the rector or mother church of Maiseyhampton. The curate is to pay at the visitations of the bishop and archdeacon 6d as a procuracy. 25 Jul 1742. Martin [Benson], bishop. Witnessed; W Mount registrar and notary public, John King notary public, Samuel Clark vicar of Kempsford and rural dean, Clement Headington curate, William Jenner, John Jenner chapelwardens, John Bedwell, Christopher King.

2 Sep 1802 Revd Charles Caswell MA, perpetual curate, nominated and appointed Thomas Bolton clerk of the parish in the room of Thomas Smith.

Church built about 1648 (see Communion chalice). *Inscription on chalice*; 'This Church was built and this Cupp given by Robert Jenner Esqr. 1648'. See *Nightingale*. Repaired in 1742 and £200 raised for the endowment [of the benefice]. Rebuilt 1876.

MARTIN *Transferred to Hampshire in 1895.*

General register, 1590-1653 (HRO 669M66/PR1)

List of curates and ministers (m) *who kept and signed the registers*: William Maurice, 1606; James Jones (m), 1615; John Bishop (m), 1625-1637; William Parry, 1640; Edward Deare, 1641-1650; William Buckner (m), 1650-1653.

General register, 1653-1715 (HRO 669M66/PR2)

Richard Compton the elder chosen parish register 22 Sep 1653 and sworn before Francis Swanton 8 Oct 1653.

List of curates who signed and kept the register: Edward Watson, 1665; Oliver Horsey, 1682; Robert Forsith, 1683; Silas Ayles, 1684-1685; Roger Saunders,

1686; Charles White, 1687; Joseph Munday, 1689; Richard Highmore, 1689. John Ballam signed as vicar of Damerham and Martin, 1659.

General register, 1716-1738 (HRO 669M66/PR3)

Joseph Hoffe, curate, 1716.

General register, 1739-1796 (HRO 669M66/PR4)

The communion plate engraved 'The Gift of Mrs Martha Reade to the Parish Church of Martin', was given 28 Jan 1744; Thomas Staples, curate, James Shrimpton, Joseph Haiter churchwardens.

1775 the burial of Rev Thomas Staples, vicar of Mere, many years curate of Martin.

Marriage register, 1754-1812 (HRO 669M66/PR6)

A list of ministers to Martin Church: Mr [Henry] Bennett began 20 May 1754, ended 26 Dec 1768; Mr [William] Storey, 4 Mar 1769, ended 16 Aug 1772; Mr [Benjamin] Pepper, 21 Feb 1773, ended 1 Apr 1782; Mr [Henry] Rigby, 9 May 1782, ended 1792; Mr [Philip] Henvill, 20 May 1792, ended Sep 1805; Mr [Anthony] Davidson, Dec 1805.

'All you that would to heaven go
must now take care whilst here below
how we do live what we do,
for god above our ways do know,
then let us all whilst here we live
now pray to god our souls to save,
for this is now the only time
our god and saviour for to find;
therefore for heaven let us prepare
least Death should catch us unaware,
fore Die we must, we all must go
into another we Canst tell
it be heaven or it may be hell.'

MELKSHAM

General register, 1568-1606 (1368/1)

The title page states, in Latin, that the register was written up [compositus] on 26 Mar 1572 by Robert More, curate, William Lamb and Richard Rumsey, churchwardens.

Cito pede preterit aetas
Ac mors mihi malorum remedium
Jerardus Prior huius Ecclesia
Clericus hunc scripsit librum
Anno domini 1598.

Time passes on fleet foot. And death is the cure of ills for me. This was written by

Jerard Prior, cleric, 1598. The first line is by Ovid. There are several lines very faint whose meaning seems to be that nothing is to be written in the register that is not authenticated. Prior made his subscription to the 39 Articles as a schoolmaster in Melksham on 13 Nov 1599 [D5/9/1]

Edward Cooke of Melksham, broadweaver, was sworn as parish register before Thomas Eyre, 12 Oct 1653.

General register, 1708-1734 (1368/3) *A register of the owners of pews 1735-1754 in this book has been published in Pew Rents*

Register by Bohun Fox LLB, who was inducted into this vicarage 28 Oct 1697, *On title page.*

General register, 1733-1753 (1368/4)

The first sermon that Mr Pile preached in Melksham church 7 Oct 1750 the text was taken from Mathew chapter 5 verse 20.

An notation for change ringing six bells, mid-18th Cent..

General register, 1784-1798 (1368/6)

Note of the consecration of burial ground on the south side of the church by the bishop of Salisbury on 30 Jul 1792 when he confirmed a large number of persons of both sexes in the church. *For the consecration see the register of bishop John Douglas [D1/2/29]*

Sep 1790 two public wells were sunk in Melksham by subscription: the one in the centre of the beast market; the other on the right hand going from the Bath road into Cannon Holding. NB about 45 ft. from the corner house in the row from the court or Place house. JH Bumpstead minister.

Sep 1795 a subscription was made for paving the footway in the town of Melksham. It was begun 7 Sep 1795 by the house opposite the second well above described and on the other side from the corner house in the row from Place house alias the Court house. *Both notes refer to work in Church Walk and Church Street.*

General register, 1798-1812 (1368/7)

Melksham or Milksham or Michaelsham (being dedicated to St Michael) is a vicarage in the gift of the dean and chapter of Salisbury, who are the appropriators thereof. The chapelries of Seend, dedicated to Holy Cross, and Erlestoke, dedicated to St Mary, are annexed to the vicarage. There are 3a 9p of glebeland adjoining to the vicarage garden: But there is a large demesne of Melksham belonging to the appropriation: And it would be most desirable for a resident vicar, that some arrangement should be made by the dean and chapter for giving up a close or two of their demesne to the vicarage for an equivalent: The above 3a 9p were procured in exchange for the hay money and 7 cow leazes in 1814. Upon the enclosure of Erlestoke the vicarial tithes were commuted for land, part of which has since been alienated for redeeming

the land tax of the whole vicarage; the remainder, about 36 acres, belongs to the vicarage; but the distance is too great for a resident vicar to occupy them himself to advantage. The Gilbert Act would authorise an exchange of that land for land at Melksham, or even any purchase with money borrowed from the corporation of Queen Anne's Bounty, to be paid off by instalments. *The Gilbert Act referred to here is the Clergy Residences Repair Act, 1776-7, not the more well known act of 1781-2 relating to provision for the poor. Several other notes on the endowment of the vicarage.*

MILDENHALL

General register, 1560-1653 (1532/1)

A sketch of a man's head with date 1621 on his cheek and James Browne 1692 and George Noble 1532 in a speech bubble.

General register, 1653-1740 (1532/2)

'Lost at sea with the Duke going into Scotland May 5 '82 E[arl] of Roxburgh, L[ord] O'Brian. L[ord] Hopton, Sir Joseph Duglas, Mr Hyde with severall of his officers and 130 seamen. Blissett Brayoke. *A contemporary note refering to the sinking of the Gloucester off Great Yarmouth in 1682: The ship was carrying James duke of York [later James II] to Scotland to fetch his duchess. Presumably the information was copied from a newsletter, and is an interesting example of the spread of news to a rural parish.*

General register, 1740-1777 (1532/3)

Churchyard rails: Mildenhall farm from the barn 3 (20-4); Gregories 1 (7-0); Folly farm 1 (6-9); Werg mill 1 (6-11); Werg farm 1 (13-9); Stitchcombe mill 1 (6-9); Witteat 1 (6-9); Grove farm 3 (20-6); Woodlands 2 (14-8); Pockock half yardland Poulton and mill 1 (8-7); Baker 1 (7-10); Mear 1 (7-10); Stitchcombe farm 3 (26-2); Poulton Mays 3 (22-10); Poulton Parsy 3 (25-0). It appears by comparing the above with another account in the same hand that it should be Werg farm 2. *The numbers probably refer to perches [1 perch is about 5 yards]; those in brackets are added on the left hand side of the document and may be more accurate amounts in feet and inches.*

General register, 1778-1812 (1532/4)

A copy of marriages 1797-1798 written on the back of a note to Revd Francis, rector: Mr Wood of Lechlade House, in his way from Salisbury, being fond of angling, requests the favour of Mr Francis, for a few hours diversion in his water, is interleaved in the register.

MILTON LILBOURNE

General register, 1717-1738 (616/2)

List of vicars: Revd [Francis] Pexstone, was succeeded by Revd Joseph Wall about 1678; who died 1720 and was succeeded by Revd David Humphreys; who resigned in 1723 and was succeeded by Revd George Lewis; who resigned in 1733 and was succeeded by Revd Charles Jay; who recorded

this and died in 1761 and was succeeded by Revd Charles Curtoys curate of Wootton Rivers, who was inducted into this vicarage 10 Oct 1761, by F Collins curate of Pewsey; Revd Curtoys died 25 Mar 1775 and was succeeded by Revd Thomas Royse, who was inducted into this vicarage 22 Jul 1775 by Revd Gibbs rector of Woodborough; Revd Royse died in May 1777 and was succeeded by Revd Mr John Swain, who was inducted into the vicarage by Revd H Jenner curate of Burbage in 1777; Revd Swain died 9 Jun 1800 and was succeeded by Revd John Braithwright; who died and was succeeded by Revd Thomas Hinxman Gale; who resigned this living on being appointed to the vicarage of Godmersham cum Challock in the diocese of Canterbury, and was succeeded by revd John Henry Gale in 1846.

MINETY

General register, 1663-1713 (1578/1)

31 Jan 1663 Richard Browne MA inducted vicar by Mr Thomas Hodges, vicar of Rodbourne Cheney. *List of vicars presented by the archdeacon of Wilts, all in Phillipps except Browne.*

W[illiam] Fifield was inducted by Ed[ward] Cuthbert rector of Cricklade St Sampson, 1705.

General register, 1697-1756 (1578/2)

Revd Mr [Robert] Stebbing was instituted into the vicarage of Minety 25 Aug 1747 and was inducted 13 Sep 1747

Burial register, 1754-1812 (1578/17)

Thomas Jones entered upon the curacy of Minety, 25 Mar 1781

MONKTON DEVERILL

General register, 1695-1812 (1180/39)

16 Aug 1738 received of Thomas Hurle ...s 6d for...count book received by me John Lang Ford. *This is a receipt for a parish account book purchased from John Langford of Warminster.*

MONKTON FARLEIGH

General register, 1570-1790 (2073/1). *Three registers bound together in 1871* 1626 memo that John Walter and William Baker, churchwardens, did place in the second seat on the south side of the church the wife of the said John Walter, and gave 6d to the church. They placed in the same seat the wife of Robert Baker and she gave 6d. Witnesses; John Walter (X), William Baker (X), churchwardens.

8 Oct 1639 being Sunday Richard Uridge MA, parson, did read the kings majesties declaration of the 39 Articles of Religion and . . . thereunto annexed in the time of divine service in the church unto which he gave his full

assent and consent. In the presence of us and divers others: Philip Jenkins of Corsham, John Butler, William May (X), Richard Battersby (X), clerk of the parish. *Battersby appears not to have been able to write which clearly meant he had to concentrate on the non literary tasks of the position.*

John Allambridge was inducted into the rectory on 30 Jan 1642.

Memo that at the time of my induction John Butler the elder, being then (and many years after in the times of troubles) churchwarden, kept in papers registers of christenings, burials and weddings, the parchment book being full; which papers since his death cannot yet be found; I therefore (no churchwarden taking care or notice) begin from the said Butler's death. What is past Ego nesio nec ego curo [*I know not nor care*]. *Butler was buried 13 Mar 1651.*

5 October 1679 being Sunday Richard Medlicott rector of 'Farly Monach' did read the king's declaration and the articles of religion in the time of divine service in the parish church of 'Farly Monach' unto which he gave his full assent and consent in presence of us and divers others, witness our hands, James Bassett, John Drewett.

Peter Gunning was inducted into the church 27 May 1780.

NETHERAVON

General register, 1582-1689 (2093/1)

9 Apr 1626 A note of the writings and deeds in a black box to the churchwardens:

Imprimis a charter from the duchy of Lancaster. Mr Bachtett's conveyance to Mr Chideock Wardour; Mr Chideok Wardour's conveyance to certain 'fefers' [feoffees] inhabitants here; Thomas Bushell's assignment to new feoffees; Sir Thomas Jeayes bond to pay £11 to the parish; <William Ideneyes bond to keep the clerk there; a bond for saving the parish harmless from Thomas Bower; for a bond for saving harmless the parish from Leonard Piper; the bonds for the parish money from Mr Ringe; William Warwood bond, Gabriel Collings his bond, Mr Hill's bond>; the parish acquittance for their lands; John Colling his bond ... Joseph ... bond; John Legg his bond; John Hatchman his bond; John Hearne his deed to new trustees. *Entries after William Ideneyes added later.*

John Dolleman; John Herne; Robert Goodalls living; Simon West; Richard Harper; Faith Suttin; John Cooper living; Edmund Leege; Mary Leege; John Gamon; Thomas Bautch; John Herne the ?Landman; Thomas Terrier; John Herne lands; Richard Harper; Thomas Baitch; <Mark Leege>; Richard Leege; Mr Piles 4 yardlands called Bridges; Adames living of Chissenbury; Harpers half yardlands; Christopher Mathews half yardlands; Richard Willis junior living; Mark Leege's living. *This list written on the inside of the front cover of the register is probably c1625*

Memo that Ann Arnoll, servant to Michael Quinton of Netheravon, gent,

is licensed to depart from her master and is at her liberty to serve elsewhere according to the statute in that case made and provided. In witness whereof we have hereunto set our hands and seals, 22 Jan 1630; John Ring, vicar, William Head, churchwarden and tithingman, Thomas Bayley, John Bayly, householders.

15 Apr 1661: In Thomas Dicks hand 14s 4d; In Mr Thomas Mills hand 9s. total 14s 4d.

At the General Sessions of the Peace held at Devizes Thursday after the close of Easter, 9th April 1678 before Samuel Eyre esq., Walter Ernle baronet, Sir Giles Hungerford, Richard Lewis esq, Geoffrey Daniell esq, Edmund Hungerford esq, John Fitzherbert esq, and John Scrope esq, justices.

‘This Court taking notice that the dayly concourse & great increase of Rogues, Vagabonds & Sturdy Beggars is a great grievance & annoyance to the Inhabitants of this County: and through the negligence or ignorance of those officers who have been intrusted in this Concerne, they are now growne soe insolent & presumptuous, that they have oft by threats & menaces extorted money & victuals from those who live in houses far remote from neighbours, whilst their husbands & servants have been employed abroad in the management of their lawfull Vocations, & have put the people in a generall consternation or fear that they will fire their houses or steal their Goods; the Consequences whereof may prove very dangerous, if not timely prevented. Wherefore this Court taking into their serious Consideration what Remedies may be most properly applied to these growing mischiefs, doth order & command all chief Constables, Petty Constables, Headboroughs, Tithingmen & all other officers herein concerned, that they doe forthwith cause all the Lawes & Statutes heretofore made against Rogues, Vagabonds, & Sturdy Beggars wandring & idle persons to be put in Execution, and to that it is hereby Ordered,

1. That all High Constables, Petty Constables, Tithingmen & the Officers herein concerned shall within their severall & respective limits make privy search once every weeke (& oftner if need be) in all Ale-houses, victualling-houses, Barns & other suspected Places, in the night time, for the finding out & apprehending of Rogues, Vagabonds, Sturdy beggars, wandring and idle Persons. And they shall also apprehend all such Rogues etc, who travel with forged & counterfeit Passes in the daytime, & all such persons which they shall apprehend in such search, or shall take begging, wandring or disordering themselves, the Constable, Headborough or Tithingman, being assisted with the Minister & some other of the Parish, shall cause to be strippd naked from the middle upward, & to be openly whipped until their Bodies be bloody.
2. That the Constable etc shall strictly examine all & every person and persons who shall produce any testimoniale or passe to travel to any particular place within this Realm; & if they shall finde that such testimoniale be not signd, under the hand & seale of some justice of the peace of some County or the Mayor, or head officer of some City or town, Corporate, or the Constable of some Parish, or the Minister, Headborough or Tithingman of some parish from whence the party came, or any two of them; or if the party be not in the

direct road homewarde or noyt within the time limited by the testimoniale or Passe, or that the party begs by the ways, of any person, such persons so offending in any of these cases shall be whipt as aforesaid.

3. When any Rogue etc hath been whipt, the Minister, Constable, Tithingman etc of the parish, or place where he was so whipt, or any two of them, shall give him a passe, or testimoniale under theyr hands & seales in this or the like form, viz:

JR a sturdy vagrant beggar of . . . stature . . . haird and aged about . . . years was this . . . day of . . . in the . . . year of the Reign of our Sovereign Lord King Charles the 2nd of England etc, openly whipt at D in the County of Wilts according to the law for a wandring rogue, & is assignd to passe from the parish to parish by the officers thereof the next straight way to A in the County of B being the place & he is limited to be at A aforesaid within days now next ensuing, at his peril.

Given under our hands & seals etc JS Minister of D aforesaid, RA Tithingman, Constable there.

4. And if such Rogue etc by his own default exceed the time limited by any such testimoniale or Passe he shall from time to time receive the like punishment, & the minister of such parish shall register such testimoniale upon the penalty of 5s.

5. When such testimoniale is made every Rogue etc shall be forthwith sent from parish to parish by the officers of every respective parish through this County the next straight way to the place of his birth etc if that cannot be known then to the place, where he last dwelt by the space of one whole yeare before, the same punishment there to be set to worke etc & if that cannot be known then to the parish thro which hee last passd without punishment & the officer of that parish shall convey the person to the house of correction, or the Common Gaol of the County there to be employd in worke until he shall be placd in some service for the space of one year, or not being able of body until he shall be placed in some Almshouse in the county.

6. When any rogue etc shall be brought by any officer to any Parish with such a Passe the Constable there shall give him necessary reliefe for his passage & then convey him by himselfe or some other person, to the officers of the next parish in the way to the parish directed by the testimoniale or passe. And if any Constable etc be negligent & do not his best endeavour to apprehend such Rogues etc idle or disorderly persons & cause them to be punishd & conveyd away as afforesaid he shall forfeit 20s for every such offence. And if any person whatsoever shall hinder the punishment or conveyance of any Rogue etc or shall make recourse against any officer, or hinder the execution of these laws he shall forfeit for every offence 5li & be bound to his good behaviour.

7. That if any such Rogue etc shall be incorrigible & shall seeme dangerous or will not be reformed of his Roguish life then the Constable etc shall convey him to some justice of the peace to be committed to the house of correction.

8. That the Constable etc shall give necessary reliefe & provide lodging for Impressd Soldiers or sea faring men suffering shipwrack not having wherewith to relieve themselves in theyr travils homewards & having a testimoniale under the hand of some justice of the peace of or near the place where they landed declaring the place & time of theyr landing, the place of theyr dwelling

or birth unto which they be to passe & the time limited for theyr passage so that such sea-faring men be in theyr direct way homewards & within the time limited for theyr passage & that no Constable or other Officer give relief to any other persons than those that have been whipt otherwise qualified as aforesaid.

9. If any Souldiers or marriners fall sicke in theyr Passage home they shall be excused though they exceed the time limited in theyr testimoniales so that they perform theyr journey in convenient time after theyr recovery.

10. That wandring Soldiers or Mariners & all others wandring as Soldiers or Mariners, who will not settle themselves to worke or have not a testimoniales under the hand of some justice of peace near the place of theyr landing, declaring the place where they landed, the place whither they are to passe & the time of theyr passage, or exceeding the time limited above 14 daye, or having a counterfeit testimoniales, shall in all these cases suffer as fellons, & therefore the officer is to have such person to the next justice of the peace, to be proceeded against accordingly.

11. The Constable, Deputy Constable, headborough & Tithingman shall go from house to house & give notice to every householder in person within theyr respective limits, that they take care that neither they nor any of theyr servants shall from thenceforth receive any Rogue etc wandring or disorderly person or any other person, unlesse poore inhabitants, of the same parish licensed to beg by the officers who shall happen to beg at any of theyr houses, but if they see or know of any such person to beg, they shall forthwith send or convey him to the Constable etc in order to be whipt according to the law upon the penalty of 10s for every neglect etc to be prosecuted for the same at the next Sessions.

12. That no housekeeper or other person whatsoever shall permit or suffer any Rogue etc wandring or disorderly person to lodge or abide within theyr house, barns or out houses near home or remote in the fields. But upon knowledge thereof they shall forthwith give notice to the Constable etc of the same Parish, to the intent that such offenders may be punishd according to law, upon paine that every housekeeper, or other person shall forfeit 10s for every such offence.

13. That if any Alehousekeeper or victualler shall from henceforth relieve, entertaine, lodge or harbour in theyr victualling houses any Rogue etc wandring or disorderly person without speciale order from the Constable or Tithingman of the same parish, theyr Alehouses shall be suppressd & they shall be further dealt with according to law.

14. That every person who shall bring any Rogue etc before any justice of the peace shall have 2s allowd for his pains, to be payd by the Constable or Tythingman of the parish through which such Rogue last pasd unpunished, & such justice of the peace is desired to grant a warrant to levy the same.

15. That the Constable of every respective parish shall not charge or compell the inhabitants of any village, towne, Parish, Hamlet to pay any money to the rates concerning impressd Soldiers, Mariners, Rogues, vagabonds or other disorderly persons other than to the use expressd afforesaid & if they do, the same shall not be allowd upon theyr accompts.

16. The Chiefe Constable, petty Constable, headborough & Tythingman

& all other officers herein concernd, shall use theyr utmost endeavours to execute these laws & shall give an account upon oath in writing under the hand of the minister of every respective parish, to the justices of the peace at theyr meetings for theyr respective divisions, & in default of such meetings to the justices at the next quarter Sessions what Rogues & vagabonds wandring or disorderly persons they have apprehended & how many they have punishd upon penalty of 40s for every such neglect & moreover they shall also present at the next quarter Sessions all Alehousekeepers, housekeepers, victuallers, who have relieved at theyr doors or have lodged or harbored in theyr houses, outhouses, or barns any such Rogues vagabonds or sturdy beggers to the intent they may may be prosecuted according to law, & that in the meane time they cause all these laws & directons to be publiquely read in th[e]r respective parish churches, or at the church doore, & to be registerd in th[e]r respective parish books there to be kept & preserved for the better information & example of those that shall succeed them, & the Copys thereof be sent by the Clarke of the Peace to the several parishes, tythings, & hamlets within the County for the purpose.

17. And for the better information of all officers, & others who shall be concernd in the execution of the said laws, what persons by the laws of the Realme are esteemd Rogues, vagabonds or sturdy beggers. All persons calling themselves Scholars, going about begging, all seafaring men pretending losses of theyr ships or goods on the Sea, going about the Country begging, all idle persons going about in any country, either begging or using any subtile craft, or unlawful gams or plays, or feigning themselves to have knowledge in physiogniony, palmistry or other like crafty science, or pretending that they can tell destynies fortunes or such other like Fantastical imaginations. All persons that be or utter themselves to be recters, procurers, pattent gatherers, or collectors for Gaoles, Prisons or hospitals, all Fencers, Bearwards, comon plaiers of interludes & minstrels wandring abroad. All jugglers, Tinkers, Peddlers, & petty cheapmen, wandring abroad, all wandring persons, & comon labourers, being persons able in body, using loytring & refusing to worke for such reason able wages as are taxd, or comonly given in such parts where such persons do, or shall happen to dwell or abide not having living otherwise to maintain themselves. All persons delivered out of Goale that beg for theyr fees or otherwise do travile begging. All such persons wandring & pretending losses by fire, or otherwise. All such persons wandring & pretending themselves to be Egyptians, or wandring in the habit form or attire of counterfeit Egyptians. All such persons as shall wander up & downe the Country selling Glasses, all that afforesaid persons not being under the age of 7 years are by the law taken, deemd, & adjudgd to be rogues, vagabonds & sturdy beggars. Order of the Sessions before mentioned was published in the Parish Church of Netheraven in the County of Wilts the 9th day of June An[n]o D[o]m[in]i 1678.

The relevant Order or Minute book is not present in the Quarter Sessions archives, and as the order was not enrolled on the Sessions Rolls, this is the only complete copy of it. Sections 1-16 are extracts from Acts 39Eliz c4, c17 [1596-1597], 1JasI c7 [1603-1604] and 14ChasII c14 [1662]. In the shortened versions of this order in other parish registers [for which see Index] the sections are assigned accordingly. The

heading of the order is abbreviated from the original which is in Latin.

General register, 1680-1739 (2093/2)

31 Mar 1686 7 houses were burnt at Haxton.

15 Mar 1694 being Thursday 48 houses in Netheravon and 4 houses in Fittleton were burnt.

General register, 1740-1795 (2093/3)

Memo 9 May 1748; according to the account given by Richard Nicholas of Compton of the parish of Enford and Thomas Nicholas of Chisenbury in the said parish, it appears that the tithe of sheep sold, of wool and lamb arising from west Chisenbury farm in the parish of Netheravon, now in the occupation of Mr John Fowle, are to be divided between the impropiator and the vicar of Netheravon in the following proportions, that is to say, five parts to the impropiator and four parts to the vicar. Witness our hands John Owen, W Godfrey.

19 Jan 1792 sent 4s 1d by Joseph Phillemer to Devizes for tax in full by me Joseph Cozens, clerk of Netheravon. 13 Dec 1792 same entry for 6s 3¼d. *This relates to The Stamp Act of 1783.*

General register, 1795-1812 (2093/4)

12 & 13 Feb 1799 upwards of 100 persons were inoculated in the parish, an infant died.

NETTLETON

General register, 1557-1686 (1598/1)

A note of the dues of the parish of Nettleton as follows: Imprimis for the King's Bench for one whole year 6s 6d; item for the Maimed soldiers for the whole year 13s; for the Gaol for one whole year 2s 8d.

A note of dues for the Hundred of Damerham North yearly: to the Maimed Soldiers £2 19s 4d; Gaol 14s; Upper Bench £1 8s 8d. Total £5 2s: the proportion of Christian Malford £1 13s; of Kington Langley £1 13s; of Grittleton £1 2s; of Nettleton £1 2s. *The notes are undated but are probably c 1665.*

NEWTON TONY

General register, 1568-1685 (1294/1)

<Memo that on 30 Mar 1619 there was paid and delivered into the hands of Robert Carpenter and John Aven, churchwardens of this parish of Newton Tony the full sum of £5 of lawful English money given and bequeathed by the last will and testament of Robert Batt, clerk, parson of Newton Tony, to the use of the poor of the said parish in the presence of Fortunatus Saunders, rector, Samuel West, Robert Carpenter (X), Thomas Lavington (X), John Aven (X), Daniel Giles (X), Valentine Smart (X), Thomas Perrin (X), Robert Kent (X)>

<There is also the same day and year remaining in Richard Bevis his hands

the sum of forty shillings which was given by Robert Carpenter the elder in 1599 by his last will to 'thuse' [the use] of the poor of the parish of Newton Tony acknowledged by the said Richard Bevis in the presence of the witnesses abovesaid.>

<Memo that Richard Bevis has delivered and paid the 40s that was in his hand unto Thomas Bundy and William Mortimer churchwardens and Henry Woodes and Edward Browne, overseers of the poor. 21Apr [1619] In the presence of Fort[unatus] Saunders, minister, Robert Beaman, Steven Tinne.>

1599 Bequeathed unto the parish church of Newton Tony the sum of 5s by Robert Carpenter deceased and delivered into the hands of John Perrin then churchwarden by Jane wife to the said Robert Sep 5.

Memo that William Brasier has delivered and paid the 40s that was in his hands unto Adam Giles and John Smart, churchwardens and Thomas Perrin and Robert Kent, overseers of the poor.

Adam Giles has delivered and paid the 40s that was in his hands unto John Smart and Edward Dench, churchwardens, Robert Carpenter and Nicholas Girle, overseers of the poor.

<5 Apr 1635 memo there was then delivered unto the hands of Thomas Bevis and Henry Woods, churchwardens of the parish of Newton Tony 40s, given by the last will and testament of Fortunatus Saunders, late rector of the church of Newton Tony, to the use of the poor of the said parish, in the presence of Christopher Ryley, rector, Thomas Bevis (X), Thomas Perrin (X), John Aven (X), Thomas Bevis (X), Nicholas Pickenell (X), Daniel Giles.> This was paid by Thomas Bevis to Thomas Lavington and John Aven 4 Apr 1636. *For the will see P1/S/208.*

General register, 1678-1739 (1294/2)

The rectors of this parish of Newton Tony as far as by enquiry I can learn have been Mr Pie, to whom succeeded Mr Robert Batt about 1598, who died 1617; to him Mr Fortunatus Saunders, who died 1633; to him Mr Christopher Ryley, who being persecuted from the parsonage in the rebellion, died before the restoration of King Charles II in 1660. (The intruder's name was [John] Watts). At the Restoration was presented Mr [James] White who lived not two years. After his death the patronage fell, by the gift of Dr [John] Davenant bishop of Salisbury (sometimes master of Queens' college, Cambridge) to the said college; by whose presentation Mr Richard Bryan BD fellow of the said college succeeded. He held it three years and resigned to Dr [Adiel] Baynard who died 1668, to whom succeeded by the presentation of the college, Joseph Kelsey BD who died 1 Nov 1710; to whom succeeded Mr Henry Wood BD who died 7 Oct 1720; to whom succeeded Mr John Price BD, by the presentation of the college; to whom succeeded Mr Richard Keble BD by the death of the said John Price 10 Apr 1762, and by the presentation of the college; to whom succeeded Mr John Cant BD on the death of the said Richard Keble 10 Apr 1775, and by the presentation of the college 4 Jul 1775. Mr Cant was succeeded 3 Jun 1776 by Mr John Ekins MA, on the presentation of the college, and by exchange of the living of Knaptoft Leicestershire, belonging to the duke of Rutland.

General register, 1739-1812 (1294/3)

Continuation of the list of incumbents in the previous register from 1809-1915.

John Ekins pulled down an old and bad parsonage house which stood in the village and built a new one, where it now stands, in 1778; also offices adjoining to the house; a six stalled stable, coach house and sheds, betwixt the stable and old barn: This house was built according to the Act of Parliament for promoting parochial residences among the clergy; the deeds relating to it are in the hands of Mr Bowles, registrar to the bishop. The money raised for building it, with interest of the same, is paid off; 27 Jun 1801. *Clergy Residences Repair Act, 1776-1777; for mortgage papers see D1/11/1.*

NORTH BRADLEY**General register, 1719-1773 (523/4)**

John Butcher clerk 5 Jan 1770.

The name Jane daughter of Thomas and Rebecca Hurne [baptised 17 Oct 1722 aged 1½ years] which appears on the opposite side written in a different character and evidently seems to have been inserted between the names of Ann and John, since this register was originally made, carries with it a very strong appearance of forgery. To this probable supposition the vicar thinks it his duty to subjoin the following detail of facts. In the year 1782 a lawsuit was entered into between one – Miles of Bradford and John Froud, respecting an estate which John Froud of North Bradley, then had in possession by virtue of a title derived to him from the sister of said Froud's mother, the two sisters being co-heiresses. These co-heiresses were both believed to be illegitimate. The general opinion of the parish was such: To confirm which opinion the marriage of the father was not to be found in any parish register. The plea upon which Froud grounded his claim to the whole estate was this: that his aunt, his mother's eldest sister was illegitimate, and that his mother was born in wedlock, her father's marriage having taken place between the births of his two daughters. The parish was consequently applied to by both parties. Froud accompanied by his lawyer went to the clerk's house on the public fast day for that purpose. The clerk's son was the only person at home. They sent the clerk's son to find his father. The clerk's son upon his return found them searching the register. They immediately sent him out a second time in search. He returned telling them that his father was coming. Upon which, they said it did not signify, they would call another time. The lawyer employed by Miles afterwards had recourse to the same register for information. He spied the name here aluded to, which then appeared to have been fresh written. He observed it to the clerk; who was much surprised having never seen it there before: The opinion of the clerk upon the subject was that the said name was a forgery; as he could take upon him to say that no such name was there to be found six weeks before, he himself having examined the register for the purpose of finding it. This testimony the clerk was ready to have delivered in court upon oath, had he been called upon. But the affair did not come to a trial, a compromise having taken place between the parties.

Charles Daubeny LLB, vicar, 20 May 1782. John Butcher, clerk.

NORTH NEWNTON

General register, 1757-1812 (1271/1)

Memo I entered the curacy of Newnton at Ladyday [25 Mar] 1761.

Six 'Arbele' [*Abele; white poplar*] trees were planted in the churchyard by Mr Mayo, Jan 1762.

Memo I received this register from Mr Jay's son by the hands of Mr Thomas Tarrant of Milton [*Lilbourne*], 28 Jan 1762, there were then eight leaves cut out of it, the pages not then being numbered. John Mayo, curate.

NORTH TIDWORTH

General register, 1700-1777 (2159/1)

The register book of North Tidworth given by Robert Pierce, rector, 25 Mar 1700.

An account of the fences of the churchyard of North Tidworth, and who are to make and repair them. The first column is an exact copy of the note of them which is in the long old register, written in 1638 the 2nd May, and is subscribed by Mr John Mompesson, then rector of the parish [*The details for 1700 are in italics*]:

Imprimis from Mr William Maton's mudwall on the south side of the churchyard, William Pitman makes 7 perches as they now stand; item next to him Mr William Sotwel makes 5 perches of rail as they now stand: *these [sic] 11 perches are now to be made by Robert Pierce clerk and are in length 96 feet and about 2 inches.*

Item the widow Stout next to him 1 perch: *now... Moody and is in length 8 feet 2 inches.*

Item next to that Richard Parsons makes 6 perches as they now stand: *now by Richard Parsons and are 40 feet 3 inches long.*

Item on the east side John Dicox 1 perch: *now Richard Pierce clerk and is 8 feet near 2 inches long.*

Item next to him William Downs 1 perch: *now by Giles Downs and is 7 feet 2 inches long.*

Item next to William Downs Mr William Maton 2 perches: *now by Mrs Mompesson and are 16 feet and an inch long.*

Item next to that the parson 2 perches and the door: *by the same and are 15 feet and about 11 inches long.*

Item next to that Mr John Mompesson junior 26 perches: *now by John Moody who has bought the ... of Mrs Mompesson.*

Item next to that Robert Baily 2 perches: *now by Giles Downs and are 17 feet long.*

Item next to Robert Baily Mr Francis Maton: *now by Mrs Gertrude Maton and are 41 feet 2 inches long.*

Item next to that the Widow Dowse for Groves yardland 1 perch: *now by Robert Pierce and are 6 feet and about 9 inches long.*

Item next that the north side, the Widow Dowse for Grove's Living 1 perch:

now by Mrs Mompesson [as her husband affirmed to me not long before his death] and is 6 feet 9 inches long.

Item next to that John Baily and Thomas Worwold 1 perch: *now by Robert Peirce and John Baily.*

Item next to that William Sotwel esq 11 perches as they now stand and they reach to the mudwall; *now by Robert Pierce, these 11 perches with the other above-mentioned one are all 106 feet 9 inches long.*

Towards the west side Mr William Maton makes all the fence: *now by Mrs Mompesson.*

This boundary as made 2 May 1638, in the presence of John Mompesson rector.

This agrees exactly with that written by Mr John Mompesson in the old register out of which it was transcribed 3 Sep 1700 by me Robert Pierce rector. NB it is said that the space between the 6 perches made by Richard Parsons and that formerly made by John Dicox was filled up by the body of a great tree, which having been cut down by a rector of the parish, the place of it was supplied by a short perch of rails about 5 feet long, which perch has ever since been repaired by the rectors. These measures of the boundary and fences of the churchyard were taken on the 10 Aug 1692 and again on 3 Sep 1700 by me Robert Pierce rector.

General register, 1777-1812 (2159/2)

Memo that in the year 1787 the flooring and sides of the seats in the church were repaired at the charge of the inhabitants, who paid for each sitting 5s and the seats were allotted to each of them according to the following list. Also at the same time the Creed, Lord's Prayer and Ten Commandments were wrote against the walls and the church completely repaired at the charge of the owners and occupiers of land within the said parish. Thomas Northeast and John Cooper, churchwardens:

At the west end of the church 2 seats for Edward Poore esq and servants; at the east end next the rector's pew a seat for Mrs Ann Hughes; at the north side a seat for Thomas Assheton Smith esq's farm by the church; next to it a seat for ditto for his upper farm; 1 a seat for John Cooper's two houses, for men and women: 2 Joseph Edwards, Mrs Ann Hughes for her cottage; William Jowles; John Cooper for his lower house; John Fry: 3 James Harwood; John Swinbank; Thomas Assheton Smith esq for his cottages opposite his upper farm, two seats; Edward Poore esq for his cottages: [4 not used]: 5&6 Edward Poore esq for his cottages: 7 Thomas Assheton Smith esq, two seats for the maid servants of his two farms, and one for his cottage opposite the stocks; Mrs Ann Hughes, two seats for maid servants: 8 Richard King; James Harwood; Charles Habberfield; TA Smith esq for his cottage opposite his upper farm and Benjamin Hayden for their wives: 9 John Edwards; Mrs Ann Hughes for her cottage; TA Smith esq for his cottage opposite his upper farm; Richard Guyatt and John Swinbank for their wives: 10 William Jowles; Charles Bloxham; Thomas Miles; Christopher Stockwell and William Fielder for their wives: 11 Ann Holloway; William Evans; Mary Bailey; Joseph Edwards and Joseph Grace for their wives: 12 Jane Blackman; John Cooper for his lower house; John Attwood, John Fry and William Baker for their wives: 13 Mary

Bailey; Joseph Grace; Ann Holloway; Richard Guyatt; Benjamin Hayden: 14 John Edwards; Charles Habberfield; William Evans; John Attwood; Thomas Miles; 15 Charles Bloxham; William Baker; Christopher Stockwell; TA Smith esq for his cottage opposite the stocks; Richard King.

In 1809 the water came down to Tidworth on 3 Jan. The springs were higher this year than they had been known to be in any year during the period of the thirty five years next preceeding. 25 Jun the stream continued to flow till this day, when it ceased.

1810 23 Dec the water entered the village and passed through it.

1811 9 Dec the water entered the village and passed through it and ceased to flow on 9 Jul 1812.

1813 4 Mar the water entered the village and passed through it.

1814 14 Mar Mr Dowling's upper farm yard was burned down.

1815 10 Mar the water flowed through the village but retired in the evening.

13 Mar it passed through in great force. It left off running 9 Jun.

1816 no water the latter end of 1815 or the beginning of 1816. Harvest late, begun – Aug; finished 7 Nov. The water came down in considerable force 30 Dec at night (mostly land flood 30th), but subsided again for a day and came down quietly on 1 Jan 1817 It left off running 22 Apr.

1817 water ran through the village on 18 Dec, but stopped; it came down in a strong steady stream on 27 Dec, and continued running till the last week in Jun 1818.

1819 water ran through the village on 27 Feb (mostly thawing of snow), but stopped some time in the night and came down strong between 2&3 Mar.

1821 water came through the village on 19 Dec (mostly flood from rain) and stopped, and came down again in great quantity on 21 Dec, and ceased early in the spring.

1823 water came down and passed through the village in the night between 1&2 Jan; ceased to run the last week in May. 23 Oct a flood of snow water. 5 Nov a flood of rain water, which was closely followed by a stream of spring water which continued to run till Jul 1824.

1824 the river came through the village on the night between 14&15 Nov, and continued to the summer of 1825.

1826 3 Mar the river came down.

1827 23 Dec the river came down; ceased running in May 1828.

1828 14 Aug a flood of rain water 18 [Aug] in the morning, a stream of spring water. The water ceased running in the night of 25 Oct. *This is a detailed and rare record of the spate of a winterbourne, the river Bourne, as it ran through North Tidworth.*

NORTH WRAXALL

General register, 1677-1803 (1170/1)

A true copy (as well as I could pick out from an old ragged defaced piece of a book) of the register of the parish of North Wraxall in the diocese of Salisbury, beginning as under from 25 Mar 1677, before which date I could recover no vestiges of anything belonging to the parish so shamefully had all

things been neglected. William Lacy [*rector 1732-1761*].

William Lacy MA was inducted 5 Nov 1732, came to reside 26 Mar 1736.

NORTON BAVANT

General register, 1648-1797 (1964/1)

John Edwards of Norton Bavant sworn as parish register before Edward Michell, 28Apr 1654.

Burial register, 1684-1797 (1964/2)

1685 gathered by 8 rates £28 9s; disbursed £24 15s 6d; remaining in stock £3 13s 3d. *Probably poor rates.*

General register, 1797-1812 (1964/4)

Preachers at the visitations of the bishop and archdeacons of Sarum at Warminster. (arch)1 Jun 1797 G Smith, vicar of Norton Bavant; (bp)14 Aug 1798 Mr Barnard, rector of Steeple Langford; 13 Jun 1799 Mr Seymour of Upton Lovell, the archdeacon did not attend from indisposition; 12 Jun 1800 Mr Eyre curate of Wylye; (bp) 13 Aug 1801 Revd Mr Winter of Codford; 17 Jun 1802 Mr Middleton vicar of Fisherton [Delamere]; 16 Jun 1803 Mr Gibbs rector of Orcheston St George; Visitation of chancellor Douglas 4 Aug 1804 Mr Cotes, rector of Steeple Langford; (arch)11 Jul 1805 Mr Griffiths of Warminster.

OAKSEY

General register, 1670-1795 (1579/1) *See also p 295.*

Robert Dalton MA, Queen's college Oxford, was inducted into the rectory 3 Oct 1670 by Mr Thomas Holloway vicar of Kemble.

12 Sep 1678 An account and register of the contributions of this parish to the building of St Paul's church in London: Madam Poole 10s; Mrs Ann Greene 2s 6d; Robert Dalton 5s; Mrs Ann Dalton 1s; Mr Robert Oatridge 1s; William Mayer 4d; Nicholas Palmer 6d; Richard Driver 1s; John Manby 6d; John Smith 1s; William Knight 6d; Walter Long 2d; Judith Knight widow 2d; Robert Godding 2d; William Burgeman 4d; Thomas Sparrow 2d; William Earle 2d; Thomas Godding 2d. Total £1 4s 8d Robert Dalton rector, Edward Pearce, William Lea churchwardens.

ODSTOCK

General register, 1541-1745 (784/1)

Register begun 27 Apr 1634; continued by Mr Christopher Young rector 1637; continued by William Bowman BD, rector, 1644. *The register is a gathering of three books of which this list is on the title page to one.*

The king's proclamation and declaration to inform his loving subjects of his kingdom of England of the seditious practices of some in Scotland etc, was

read and published at morning prayers, 24 Mar 1639, by me Christopher Younge, rector.

‘Thomas Goldwinn of Middeltoun 3 wekes

God mad man and man mad [money]

God mad bees and bees mad hone.

Memorandum that this booke was thus abused by my 1d Peircies souldiers when they were quarterd here in Odstocke, >Sep< <Oct> 16 1644’ *This is a reference to the lines above.*

‘The feare of the Lord is the beginning of wisdome, a good understanding have all They that doe there after.’ *Psalm 111 v10, written c1650*

Memo that the registering of the christenings, marriages and burials within the parish of Odstock was for 2 or 3 years omitted during the time Mr William Eyre was minister of this parish and since continued by Joseph Swaffeild, minister there. *The gap is from 1646-1649.*

General register, 1744-1812 (784/2)

Note about glebe, 1731, published in WRS vol56 p319-20 Memorandums taken from the parish book dated 1731: Dr Ballard’s estate is 2 yardlands; Mrs Clarke’s is 1½ yardland; Mrs Chubb’s is 1 yardland; Mr Champion’s is 1 yardland; William Chubb’s is ½ yardland; Robert Long’s is ½ yardland; Thomas Wat’s is 1½ yardland; Peter Grey’s is ½ yardland; Mr Mathew’s is ½ yardland; the mill is ½ yardland; the parsonage is 5 yardland; the 3 Cote’s 1 yardland; in all 15½ yardlands. And these pay half to all taxations that belong to parish to pay. Except the church; and there the parsonage pays nothing; so that what charges belong to the church, the other 10½ yardlands must pay the half part; for the minister maintains the chancel, and Sir John Webb for the farm pays the other half to all taxations belonging to the parish, both church and state. In the church are 8 seats, 4 for the men and 4 for the women; in the 1st Mr Ballard, James Chubb, John Wats; in the 2nd William Clark, Peter Gray, William Champion; in the 3rd William Chubb, William Bromfield, Robert Long; in the 4th Francis Clerk, Roger Chubb, Mathew Pearse for the mill; and so on the other side for their wives.

Land Tax for Odstock parsonage, £7 16s pa; for Homington meadow, £2 16s; this meadow being a substitute for a meadow of the same value in Odstock does not pay Land Tax for Odstock parsonage.

Last year a list of all the reputed Papists in England was called for by the king, in consequence of a motion made in the House of Lords by the earl of Radnor. In this parish were 27; 12 beside the Family. *Written after an entry for 24 Jan 1768. The family was the Webb family, a leading Catholic scion.*

Sketch plan of the glebe, c1790

On the south side of Odstock church: 1st seat the rectors; 2nd and 3rd lord

Radnor or his tenants; 4th the rectors and his tenants' servants; 5th Jo Francis, G White, Edward Cooper, G Jones junior, one sitting each; 6th – Lucas, W Davis, The mill, Thomas Ledford, C Button, G Jeanes the elder, one each; 7th – Snook, J Read, one each; 8th J Northey, W Bungey, T Eyres, William Noble, H Sanders, one each.

On the north side of Odstock church: 1st seat the rectors or his tenants; 2nd W Chubb for his two houses; 3rd Mr Self, by favour; 4th T Witt and J Bracher; 5th and 6th common. *Undated probably c1790. A slightly different seating plan to one in the parish archive [784/9] is published in Pew Lists.*

OGBOURNE ST ANDREW

General register, 1538-1666 (801/1)

1603

'When Europes mirrour, Englands royall Queene Elizabeth was dead
Then Colterne's Elizabeth the first was seen, in Oggbourne christened
Beth, she and wee, and all this land may rue that woefull day
wherein the lord with angry hand, our Queene did take away.
Full four and forty years and more this Virgin Queen did reigne
Wherin gods holy word in store she kept and did mainteine.
God graunt that precious pearle may still in England preached be
that kept may be his holy will of all earthe degree
So shall both quyetnes and peace in England still abound.
gods love towards us will increase our foes he will confound.
This is my wishe this humbly I request. God grant it thus may be,
if not let Andrewes Oggbourne Curate rest in heaven with Christ with thee
Amen, Amen'

Elizabeth, daughter of Robert Colterne was baptised 27 Mar 1604. Elizabeth Colterne was buried in April 1604. The day was not stated.

'Now noble James of Scotland England Ireland King, god graunt thee long
to reign with sharpest sword to cut down sinne, good lawes to bring and
gods word to many ?bring

Then shall the harts of Englishe wightes be firmly knitt to thee of gracious
Earles, noble knightes of all of each degree. Amen, Amen, Amen.

The poem of Edmund Baron, curate of Ogborn.'

Under the record of the marriage of the daughter of Thomas Bailey, rector of Mildenhall on 10 May 1650 is a note by James Bliss, vicar, 13 Mar 1848, citing Walker's Suffering of the Clergy, that Bailey, who succeeded Dr George Morley, was a Fifth Monarchist man and a basic commissioner in ejecting the loyal clergy of Wiltshire.

General register, 1648-1696 (801/2)

William Jeffreys of Oggbourne St Andrew sworn as parish register before William Sadler, Gabriel Martin, William Blissett. 15 Apr 1654.

OGBOURNE ST GEORGE**General register, 1663-1754 (862/1)**

James Wotton was inducted into the vicarage of Ogbourne St George 21 Jun 1717, and rebuilt the vicarage house at his own proper charge and expense, the parish not contributing one single farthing towards it, in the aforesaid year; James Wotton, vicar.

William Stone was inducted into the vicarage 11 May 1742 and laid out more money about the vicarage house and premises than any of his predecessors had ever done.

John Weldon Champneys BA was inducted into the vicarage, 10 Aug 1794.

18 young Ashen trees put against Moore Goddard's garden allowing more than one foot for droppings: The aforesaid Moore having dug close to some hurdles put as a fence in 1796. Mar 1800 quickset hedge planted against Wadmans lane: Ash frith planted in the same year in the Long Patch near Goddard's garden. Quickset hedge planted against Chantry ground Apr 1803: 2 rows by the vicar's own hands. In 1796 nine young ash trees were planted from the stable to the street as boundaries; in 1797 28 young trees were planted about the bank and north side of the garden and three against Chantry. The rest of the young trees produced from the frith [*brushwood or underwood*] were planted about White Fields farm 1810.

ORCHESTON ST GEORGE**General register, 1656-1735 (1359/1)**

George Harris sworn as parish register before Thomas Mompesson, 17 May 1656.

Marriage register, 1756-1810 (1359/4)

Memo; the ground called the Bury occupied by James Miles was sown to grass and quickset hedge laid by the said James Miles in 1786. T[homas] Grove, rector. The rector has always claimed a right of feeding the above mentioned Bury with other common fields after Lammas day [1 Aug].

13 Aug 1783 copy of an abstract of the glebe terrier dated 1588 or 1609 in the diocesan registrar's office made 2 May 1752. T[homas] Grove; with the additional note that the Pond acre formerly taken out of the down in Chathfield. See *WRS vol 56 p 321*.

ORCHESTON ST MARY**General register, 1688-1736 (1360/3)**

An account of money collected at Orcheston St Mary 1689: Thomas Jones rector 5s; Mr John Elderton 2s; Obadiah Flower 6d; William Woodroffe 6d; William Hardin 6d; Edmund Olden 2d; Jasper Peirce 2d; William Sanders 2d; Jane Heale 1d. Total 9s 1d. *The reason for the collection is unspecified but probably not for use in the parish.*

John Prideaux and Ann Selwood both of Chitterne All Saints were married Oct 17 1714. 'The aforesaid Ann was married in her smock without any cloathes or head gear on.' *This is a reference to a belief that a woman coming to the altar dressed in a single basic item of clothing avoided saddling her husband with any debts or financial liabilities she might have. See WAM 16 p330 and Cox p86. Both sources reject any legal basis for this custom; they also wrongly place the marriage in Chitterne. The editor is grateful to David Carter for finding the correct parish through the Nimrod Index.*

OVERTON

General register, 1771-1812 (1079/3)

Memo Bethia, daughter of Arch. Sprules, buried in smallpox 21 Dec 1791, just 17 feet from the corner of Mr Blake's stable and from the wall adjoining the same.

Take note that Isaac Hort wishes to lay close by his father's grave on the north side.

Sarah Leader buried 26 Nov 1800; the same day a dreadful fire happened which consumed two tenements and the greatest part of Overton farm.

11 May 1801 the first stone of the new farm was laid belonging to the duke of Marlborough by the George public house. *This was North farm.*

'In 17 Hundred 49, Into the World I came;
Near Candlemas it was the time, And Andrews is my name.
In 18 Hundred 'twas and 8, that I did write this Rhyme;
So you have got Age compleat, It being 59.
And if this Year should be my last, And such the Will of Heav'n
I hope for Pardon for the past, And all my faults forgiv'n.'
'And now another Centry's come
Let us be careful and live well
That when the Judge of all shall come
We may with him for ever dwell
Even so Amen.

And now another Centry's come
Let us live well that we die so
That when the Judge of all shall come
We may with him to pleasure go.

And now another year is past
Anew one does begin
Which if it smileth on the clerk
He will not care a pin.

And now the old year it is gone

Another we expect
 Let us all live as we would die
 And not the same neglect.'

A series of doggerel verses written by Thomas Andrews, parish clerk; those after the first piece are written at the head of the baptisms and burials for 1801 and 1810. He also drew attractive designs for the title of each year during his term of office from 1783. He was buried 18 Jun 1811, aged 63.

PATNEY

General register, 1592-1772 (509/1)

'If any one marvels why some leaves are cut out this book the reason was the churchwardens did not provide Parchment to write the copys of the Register.' c1770.

1636 the register of Patney found by chance in parson Biggs his garden 1635, which was the register only from 1592 and was (as I believe) made only by the said parson. But 1636 Richard Nash and Nicholas Nash being churchwardens this book was provided and that old register transcribed and continued unto 7 Nov 1636 by Richard Page, clerk. *Geoffrey Bigg, rector, died in 1630. Richard Page was curate. For the latter see WRS vol 32 no 608.*

Tempus edax rerum pereunt & nomina, saxa
 omnia mors posit, lex est, non paena perire.
*Time all devours all names, yea stones do fade,
 death all involves, Nature this law hath made.*

1660 [1661] mar 22

Qui christo vivit tenebris non obrutus, exit
 Conditur in tumulo, sed nunquam morte peribit
 Corpora more rapiet, melior pars sydera tangit.
 Tu repetis caelas, qui spernis cuncta caduca
 Corpore mortalis periturus, salvus in urna
 una salus restat morientibus inter olympi
 vivere p'ticipes, ulnis complectans Jesum
 Non mortis manibus claudetur carcere nigro
 gratior arridet aeternum mortis imago
 Illa dies veniet gratissima christicolenti
 quae flammis comedet miscebit aethera terra
 sic lusit ?oranontes misognaias' *Two Greek words.*

Whoever lives in Christ is not overwhelmed by darkness as he departs.

He is buried in the grave but will never disappear through death.

Death may seize his body, but his better part touches the stars.

You who scorn all that is perishable, you seek the heavens.

A mortal must perish physically, [his ashes] safe in the urn.

One deliverance remains for the dying: to live among those sharing heaven, arms embracing Jesus

He will not be shut in a dark prison by the hands of death:

[rather] the image of death will pleasantly favour the eternal.

The day will come, most welcome to a follower of Christ,

Which will consume with fire and mingle heaven and earth.

Thus the ? misogynist amused himself.

Both notes were written by Henry Massey, rector, who was ejected for nonconformity in 1662.

James Cobham, born Chester, was ordained by George Morley, bishop of Winchester, whom he served for six years and through whom he received the gift of the living of Rimpton, Somerset, where he stayed for six years and more, was presented by the bishop of Winchester and inducted into the rectory of Patney, 7 Mar 1683. *Original in Latin.*

Memo that whereas there was a difference between Richard Hayward and Bryan Humphry of the parish of Patney concerning the innermost room in the third seat on the left hand from the church door, it being a seat for women to sit in, it is now agreed by both the said parties that the said innermost room next the wall in the said seat does of right belong unto Richard Hayward for the use of any of his family, friends or assigns being females, to sit in; of which agreement they the said Richard Hayward and Bryan Humphry desired that this memorial might here be entered by me this 30th day of Mar 1686, James Cobham, rector.

Memo that the barn belonging to the rectory of this parish being blown down by the violent storm which happened on 27 Nov 1703 was rebuilt by James Cobham MA rector and finished May 1704.

PEWSEY

General register, 1654-1686 (493/3)

Henry Munday sworn as parish register before Gabriel Martin, William Sadler, William Blissett, 4 Feb 1654.

General register, 1755-1799 (493/7)

The register from 1759 to 1775 was destroyed by accident.

Marriage register, 1754-1803 (493/15)

Country licence for duty on registry of burials, marriages, births and christenings for revd Joseph Townsend issued by John Flower and William Salmon, 3 Oct 1783.

PITTON

General register, 1761-1813 (1891/2)

Cornelius Reed made clerk of Pitton, 13 Oct 1780.

Plaitford *Transferred to Hampshire in 1895.*

General register, 1710-1812 (HRO 111M71/PR/1) *A gathering of three*

book, including printed registers by John Nicholls [see p].
Andrew Hinbury began his clerkship Easter [prob 1750]

1795 wheat 12s 6d per bushell. *This is added to page 6 of Nichol's introduction in the baptism register, where he gives an example of a memo about corn prices; the clerk altered the phrase 'Wheat was so cheap' and replaced the adjective with dear.*
In 1800 wheat sold for £1 1s a bushell.

Notes in the burial register.

A new roof erected unto the parish church of Plaitford in the year 1784.
A great flood in July 1792, which carried away a great many acres of hay and some corn at Shelley farm in the parish of Ealing, William Newell churchwarden.

'Henry Petty clarck'. *Probably from 1810.*

POOLE KEYNES

Transferred to Gloucestershire in 1897.

The earliest register, 1632-1731 has note that it was found in May 1829. The Hardwicke marriage register was bought on 17 Jun 1755 for 3s 6d, by George Hill.

General register, 1653-1692 (GA P251 IN1/2)

Thomas Driver sworn as parish register by Nicholas Greene, William Shute, 7 Sep 1654. *Extremely faint; a brief note 8 Jun 1653 is illegible.*

POTTERNE

General register, 1653-1771 (1172/2)

'The Pilpot coloth And Cosan that now Is was mad And put upon the pilpot the 24th day of Aprill In the year of our Lord god 1687 Mr Boman minustur [*Richard Bowman*] Edward Long Churchwardan And Richard Higgas And John Atneaves Churchwarddan [*probably of Worton*] And William maynard Clark At the same time'

The church bible new bound 1697.

Thomas Hibberd hanged himself, 12 Jul 1736; Sarah Dicke hanged herself, 9 Jul 1739.

Names of those who provided or found the wine Whit Sunday, Christmas and Easter: Mr Gerrat, 1758-1759; Mr Read 1759-1760; Mr Grubbe 1760-1761; Mr Lye 1761-1762; Mr Waight 1762-1763; Mr Read 1763-1764; Mr Read 1764-1765; Mr White 1765-1766; Mr Eliss 1766-1767; Mr Read 1767-1768; Mr Palmer 1768-1769; Mr Phillips 1769-1770; Mr Glass 1770-1771; Mr Hibberd 1771-1772; Mr Hibbard 1772-1773. *It was common practice for there to be just three communion services each year.*

POULSHOT**General register, 1627-1738 (1551/4)**

Curates of Poulshot: Mr Greatrex, Mr Goodyear under Mr [Henry] Cotton [1602-1622]; Mr Alcocke MA [*there in 1627 according to title page of register*], Mr [Darius] Eyre MA [buried 16 Jun 1635], Mr Allen MA, Mr Bostocke BD and fellow of Brazenose College, Oxford, under Dr [Edward] Davenant [1622-?]; Mr Barlee MA, Mr Henry Richards BA, Mr Robert Forsith, Mr Thomas Syms, >Mr Kandsdale<, Mr Edward Northe, >Mr Humphreys<, Mr Poole, under Mr [William] Grove [?-1665]; no names, under Mr Pickering [1665-1680]; Mr John Stonehouse MA, fellow of Oriell College, Oxford, 168-, Mr Thomas Belch MA, of Magdelene College, Oxford, died Oct 1683, Mr Avery Thompson MA fellow of Lincoln College, Oxford, Mr James Ford MA chaplain of New College, Oxford 1698, Mr Francis Green MA of Christ Church College, Oxford 1700, Mr Bernard du Plessis 1703, Mr John Baker MA of Wadham College, Oxford 1705, Mr Thomas Andrews MA 1716, under Mr [Isaac]Walton 1680-1720.

General register, 1738-1783 (1551/5)

Abraham Noyse buried 28 Oct 1770, parish clerk for 34 years.

Marriage register, 1754-1810 (1551/6)

31 Mar 1786 received of Revd Dr [Benjamin] Blayney 5s 7½ d on account of births, marriages and burials, commencing from 2 Oct 1784 to 2 Oct 1785 for Mr Salmon, Henry Clarke; same 12 Sep 1788 8s 6d for the burial etc duty ending 2 Oct 1787; for same, Edward Joye, 16 Oct 1789 7s in cash which with 9d allowed make 7s 9d burial etc duty from 2 Oct 1787 to 2 Oct 1789, William Salmon; same 23 May 1792 duty ending 2 Oct 1791, burials (3) 9d, baptisms (17) 4s 3d, marriages (3) 9d; 5s 9d deduct discount 7d; Total 5s C Joye; same 2 Jun 1795 8s 6d from 2 Oct 1792- 2 Oct 1794, L Hitchens clerk to Mr Salmon.

William Salmon was a local commissioner for taxes and solicitor in Devises.

General register, 1783-1812 (1551/7)

Persons in the parish of Poulshot confirmed 26 Jul 1786: Peter Watts, Joseph Perrett, Mathew Bowden, James Haines, Francis Sainsbury, William Sainsbury, James Cook, John Godwin, John Mercer, Walter Newman, Simon Pierce senior, Richard Cook; Elizabeth Godwin widow, Elizabeth Eginton, Christian Sainsbury, Jane Bowden wife of Mathew, Elizabeth Bowden wife of George, Ann Miles, Hannah Bailey, Lucy Pierce daughter of Richard, Hannah Pierce daughter of Simon.

Confirmed 21 Jul 1789: Daniel Peart, aged 17, John Giddings, 15, John Perrott, 15, William Bowden, 15, William Pierce, 15, Mary Evans, 19, Christian Gerrish, 15, Mary Burbidge, 17, Ann Gaisford, 17, Catherine Burchall, 15, Hannah Bowden, 17, Ann Gilbert, 15, Grace Pierce, 15, Susan Law, 25, Christian Miles, 25.

Confirmed 30 Jul 1792: Simon Pierce, 15, Eleanor Blissett, Hannah Gilbert.

Confirmed 23 Jul 1795: James Sansbury, aged 15, Jemima Sansbury, 17, Su-

sanna Gilbert, 15, Elizabeth Miel 17, Elizabeth Swanbro', 15, Ann Ballinger, 17, Sarah Bowden, 17, John Bowden, 17, James Pierce, 16, William Noyes, 15, Thomas Newman, 17, William Newman, 16, John Bowden, 15, William Perrett, 35, George Swanbro', 40, Mary Bossom, 24, Jane Emilia Blayney, 15. Confirmed 12 Aug 1801: Sarah Bowden, aged 15, Elizabeth Wilson, 18, John East, 15, Elizabeth Perry, 17, Ann Hall, 17, Frances Hall, 16, Elizabeth Perrett, 15, Hester Bowden, 15, Rachel Pierce, 15, Frances Noyes, 15, John Clark, 17, William Clark, 16, Thomas Fox, 18, John Fox, 17, John Hall, 18, Unity Cook, 15.

Confirmed 30 Aug 1804: John Hood, aged 15, Sarah Abrahams, 16, Sophia Beard, 18, Isaac Blair, 17, John Bailey, 22, Betsey Smith, 27, Margaret Pierce, 15, Ann Cook, 16, Elizabeth Abrahams, 16, Mary Clarke, 16, William Potter, 21, Elizabeth Bailey, 30.

Confirmed 19 Jul 1808 by the Rt Revd Dr Fisher [bishop of Salisbury] being his primary visitation: William Cook, aged 17, Joseph Pierce, 26, John Pierce, 16, Thomas Mile, 17, Charles Bowden, 18, Robert Jeffries, 16, James Holloway, 17, William Sainsbury, 20, John Blair, 24, James Perrott, 19, Benjamin Cook, 15, James Pontin, 16, James Gerrish, 19, Elizabeth Drusilla Cook, 16, Sophia Gerrish, 17, Jane Abrams, 15, Ann Jones, 15, Mary Watts, 20, Elizabeth Haines, 18, Betty Waylen, 23, Elizabeth Stagg, 16, Ann Stagg, 19, Mary Perrett, 16. J Williams MA curate.

POULTON

Transferred to Gloucestershire in 1844

General register, 1695-1756 (GA P252 IN 1/1)

1702, Remain in hand from Richard Adams and John Typper churchwardens, 1s 2d

28 May 1704, Remain in hand to the new churchwardens, 8s 10d.

Richard Arthur curate, 1736.

Clement Headington, minister, visitation, 30 may 1739.

PRESHUTE

General register, 1606-1640 (1298/1)

The register book for the parish of Preshute begun by me John Hitchcock in the 4th year of the reign of our sovereign lord James [1606-1607]. The other which I made for many years before, remaining in my house, was consumed by the fire with the rest of my goods. *The loss of this register was cited in a case of incontinence against William Temperson and Elizabeth Martin in the consistory court of the diocese of London in 1620. See Cressy, p.331.*

General register, 1640-1650 (1298/2)

'O Come let us humble our Selves & fall down before the lord our God
That we may have Grace to serve him Acceptably with Reverence
let us repent and cry mightily unto God let us turn Every one from Evill way
So the lord will turn from his heavy wrath and he will pardon us and we
shall not perish

have mercy upon us o God after thy Great Goodnes According to the multitude of thy mercies do away our offences
 for we acknowledge our faults & our Sins are Ever before us
 If thou lord shouldst be Extream to mark what is don amiss o lord who may abide it
 but there is mercy with thee therefore shalt thou be feared
 Thy hand is not shortned that thou canst not save nor thy ear havy that it Cannot hear
 Thou hast promised lord that before we Cry thou wilt hear us and while we are yet Speaking thou wilt have mercy upon us
 O lord rebuke us not in thine indignation neither Chasten us in thy heavy displeasure
 For thy names sake be merciful to our Sins for it is Great
 Turn thy face from our Sins & Put out all our misdeeds
 make us clare harts o God and renew a right Spirit within us
 help us o God of our Salvation for the Glory of thy name >o lord<deliver us & be merciful to our Sins for thy names sake
 o lord our God in thee have we put our trust Save us from all them that percecute us and deliver us
 O be favourable to Sion bild thou the walls of Jerusalem
 So we thy people & Sheep of thy pastuer shall Give thee thanks for Ever and will be allways shewing forth thy praise from Generation to Generation
 Glory be to the father
 As it was in the beginning
 Salms 32 37

Francis Greenaway Clark of Preshute 1707.

In this series of biblical verses, many are adapted from verses from Psalms 6, 7, 25, 51, 79, 95 and 130, and also Hebrews 12.28, Jonah 3.8-9, Isaiah 59.1, 65.24, making them a rare and interesting example of original religious texts. The replacement of the singular personal I and my to the plural we, us and our, from the original verses suggest that they were sung or read by the clerk for the congregation to repeat.

General register, 1653-1687 (1298/3)

<Mr Thomas Myles, clerk was sworn as parish register before William Blissett, 10 Oct 1653>. *The note has been deliberately obliterated. Thomas Myles was instituted as vicar in 1662, but this was probably done to authenticate his position after the restoration.*

Memo that Mr Anthony Tate was inducted into the vicarage on 15 Jul 1685. Witnesses Thomas Nalder, Nicholas Layland, churchwardens, John Fiveash, Robert Alexander, churchwardens. *The two sets of churchwardens may represent those from the previous and current year.*

General register, 1707-1741 (1298/5)

'1711, August 30th was buried Mr Lewis Morse Vicar of Preshute
 Upon Record I here have Sett the Death,
 to future Ages, Yet to come on Earth;
 I cant forgett here to commemorate,

Thy life and actions, and thy troubles Great;
 Thou With true Zeal and Courage didst recover,
 That Which was lost some hundred Years before;
 For thou unto this Vicaridge didst restore,
 Full five and thirty pounds per Annum More,
 than had been pay'd for Many Years before;
 That thou Wast Vicar here, and thou didst prove,
 It was thy right in Many Courts above;
 Then was thy Cause at Sarum Sizez try'd,
 And there the Jury did thy case deside;
 And they Unanimously did agree,
 These tyths at Clatford did belong to thee;
 But sometime after the Assize was past,
 Thine Enemies gott a Jury man at last;
 To swear that thou the Jury didst perswade
 And didst some of them to Such courses lead
 Which made them Such a Partial Verdict pass
 Which was contrary to an honest cause
 Upon this Information they Deny'd
 The tyths for Which at 'Sizez thou hadst try'd
 Until another Sarum 'Size and then,
 Thy cause was pleaded over there again.
 Where Notwithstanding all Misinformations,
 Thou didst preserve a Noble Reputation,
 And there this Second Jury did agree,
 All tyths at Clatford did belong to thee,
 Exept the Tyth of Clatford eight Yard lands
 For which an antient Modus firmly Stands
 Which does Oblidge the Mannor Still to pay
 Full twenty Shillings every Easter day.
 An Acre of the Wheat which is to Stand
 on any part of all the eight Yard lands
 Which Wheat and Money always is to Stand
 In Lue of Tyth for all the eight yard lands
 This was they Care, but they Successors gain
 and too thy Memory twill Still remain
 Thou always didst resolve for to rely
 Upon the plea of truth and honesty
 The Widdows cause thou always didst defend
 And to the Fatherless hast been a friend.
 This was our Churches Vicar and her friend
 Which Churches he always did defend
 But now hes gone to that More Glorious place
 Where he may Still behold his Makers face.
 Written by him Who was his parish clerk and humble Servant
 Francis Greenaway.'

An impressive eulogy to an incumbent who successfully recovered his tithes on the demesne lands of Clatford.

General register, 1741-1790 (1298/6)

Richard Brunson clerk of the parish, 1741.

A copy of extracts from several register books belonging to this parish and the answers sent 3 Aug 1782 by Revd Thomas Meyler, rector, to several articles of enquiry proposed by Revd J Howlett of Maidstone, Kent who (as his letter set forth) was collecting materials to refute the gloomy and dispiriting accounts we repeatedly had of the depopulation of England and Wales, and to establish the opposite and more pleasing doctrine of the greatly increased number of our inhabitants since the revolution: *There follows a table of the annual numbers of baptisms, marriages and burials in Preshute for three periods between 1688-1779.* Baptisms in the period 1688-1707 299; burials 233: In the period 1730-1749 230 baptisms; 268 burials: In the period 1760-1779 243 baptisms; 293 burials. Total: 772 baptisms, 794 burials. The burials exceeded the baptisms by 22. But the number of children belonging to this parish who are baptised yearly at [Marlborough] St Peter, or have been baptised therein during the 3 periods far exceeds 22, so that we must not conclude from the excess of burials that the inhabitants are diminished. *Meyler compiled similar statistics for Marlborough St Peter and Paul [see above]. It is an interesting example of the manipulation of statistics that he did not mention the incidence of baptisms of Preshute children in St Peters church in analysing the figures for that parish.*

2nd query uncertain how many died of smallpox. 3rd query Preshute by an accurate enumeration contained inhabitants 645. 4th query furnished to serve the national militia 2½. 5th query contained houses to the number of 137. 6th query of which are charged to the Window tax and 3s House Duty -. 7th query contained families to the number of 138.

Savernake Park north of the lane leading from the forest to Martinsell hill contained inhabitants by an accurate enumeration 204; contributed towards the national Militia nearly 2; contained houses to the number of 30; whereof paid to the window Tax and 3s house duty 5; contained families in number 34. NB Cadley in the forest is included in the above account. NB In Savernake Park within 40 years back lived 11 creditable farmers, but now the whole thereof is occupied by 7 only; 2 of whom live out of it, and the farm houses are occupied by poor labourers. *Revd John Howlett was an economist and writer on the poor. He published Dispersion of the gloomy apprehensions in 1797. See DNB article.*

Marriage register, 1754-1810 (1298/13)

Thomas Meyler MA was inducted into the vicarage of Preshute Sat 20 Nov 1773 by David Williams, officiating minister here under the sequestration.

PURTON**General register, 1558-1737 (1429/1)**

Thomas Hopkins of Purton, shoemaker, sworn as parish register before William Sadler, 28 Nov 1653.

‘Education is the Fountain of good manners
 Good manners grace and truth are ornaments for youth
 Honour and Renown the vertious do Croun.
 Lord bow thine ear to my Request
 Make much about . . .
 Nothing so Certain to us as Death
 ?On certainty is that all servants’

‘Contentment is a king in the mind of man.’

100 Hymn All People that on earth do dwell [*the first verse*]. William Whitehead Feb 22 1727/8’

These verses and aphorisms are written in an early 18th century hand.

Mr Butler preached here Good Friday 1732; Mr Glasse 1733; Mr Clarke’s turn 1733; Mr Butler but no sermon 1734; Mr Butler 1735; Mr Glasse 1736; Mr Brinson’s turn 1748; Mr Frampton for Mr Sandford 1749; Mr Frampton for Mr Butler 1750. *Neville Maskelyne, who died in 1679, by his will left 10s for a sermon each Good Friday. Ch. Com. Rep.*

RAMSBURY

General register, 1678-1722 (500/1)

2 Aug 1680 Memo that then Mr Benjamin Malden MA, of Christ Church Oxford and domestic chaplain to the Right honorable Frances countess of Dorset, was inducted into the church of Ramsbury and that within two months after his induction he read the 39 Articles in the church and declared his unfeigned assent and consent thereunto the Book of Common Prayer and renounced the obligation of the oath commonly called the Solemn League and Covenant. Witness our hands; John Wilson, Walter Knipe, Edward Judd, William Bodenham.

15 Oct 1680 received of Benjamin Maldon, vicar of Ramsbury, the sum of 40s being in full satisfaction the payment for several particular goods bought of Elizabeth Wilson widow as appears by a bill of sale received in full; by me Elizabeth Wilson. Witness hereunto; Joseph Jennings, John Wilde, Thomas White.

A bill of account of what Mr [John] Wilson bought of Mrs Wilde, his predecessor’s widow, such Mrs Wilson was paid her by Mr Benjamin Malden, the present vicar of Ramsbury as appears by the aforesaid acquittance: The wainscot in the parlour; the ‘settles’ and other wainscot in the hall; the hedges next the churchyard; the iron bar in the hall chimney; the ‘flackes’ in the cockloft; the shelves in the closet in the parlour; the window leaves in the hall; the cupboard in the hall chamber; three locks; the granary in the kitchen chamber; the ‘planckt’ floor in the barn; the well drock; the weather boards about the house. *John Wilson was vicar before Malden.*

14 Jul 1681 An account of several sums of money given voluntarily by the parishioners and inhabitants of the parish of Ramsbury towards the repairing of the vicarage house etc: Sir Seymour Pile £2; Francis Pile esq £1; lady Elizabeth Pile £1; Mrs Mary Pile 5s; Robert Gilmore esq £1; Edward Knaxtone 2s; Thomas Knaxtone 10s; Stephen Knaxtone 2s 6d; Edward Appleford 5s; Thomas Crosbie 5s; Giles Jones 2s 6d; Edward Jones 2s 6d; Thomas Lovelock 2s 6d; William Kenfield 2s 6d; Widow Whitecheat 2s 6d; Mr Read 5s; George Adams 2s 6d; Thomas Hill 5s; Widow George 2s 6d; Edward Dismore 5s; Stephen Bankes 5s; Thomas Jennings 5s; Henry Pencott 2s 6d. I have written this for the perpetual memory and use of my successors.

Benefactors to the vicarage house much ruined by the neglect of my predecessor: John Snelgrove 1s; Mr Freeman 7s; Mr Mell 10s; Anne Webbe 2s 6d; Mr Thomas Kingston 5s; Thomas Smith 5s; Elizabeth Bankes 5s; John Stone 5s; Joshua Rushley 2s; Robert Maberley 3s; John Osborne 1s; Joseph Maberley 3s; John Sparvill 3s; Francis Plummer 2s; Daniel Bankes 1s 6d; Widow Maberley 2s; Phillip Hill 2s 6d; Joseph Jennings 5s; George Jennings 2s 6d; Thomas Mildenhall 1s; Mr Stafford 5s; Mr Knipe 5s.: Note that my house was only restored, not rebuilt, for £15 17s 5d, 1681 & 1682. Benjamin Malden, vicar.

These are to certify that in the year of our lord God 1682 Mary, the wife of Robert Maberly, was placed in the fourth place of the Widow Hill's seat of Preston; the widow Hill and her daughter and widow Webbe sitting above her. By us Robert Maberly, Edward Jones, churchwardens.

In perpetual memory and the use of my successors:

Memo that in the year 1685 I Thomas Hawes, vicar of Ramsbury, did give the widow Horne the lop of the ashes growing on the south side of the church, which she desired because her husband planted them, upon Mr Wild's promise, the then incumbent, that they should have no advantage of the first lop, they for the future being to make no pretence thereunto, but the said trees and lop or other benefits accruing thereby, to remain to the vicar of Ramsbury and his successors notwithstanding. Witness my hand Thomas Hawes.

Memo that on Monday 2 Nov 1685 Samuel Jones esq did give one silver salver for the use of the church of Ramsbury, to be left in the possession of me, Thomas Hawes, vicar, until it be otherwise disposed of by the said Samuel Jones esq, to the use aforesaid. Witness my hand, Thomas Hawes, vicar.

Memo that on Thursday 3 Dec 1685 the said Samuel Jones esq did give one damask table cloth and two napkins for the use of the church of Ramsbury, to be left in the possession of me, Thomas Hawes, vicar, until it be otherwise disposed of by the said Samuel Jones esq, to the use aforesaid. Witness my hand, Thomas Hawes, vicar.

Memo that in the year 1685 the said Samuel Jones esq did give a new communion table for the use of the parishioners of Ramsbury. Witness my hand,

Thomas Hawes, vicar.

Memo that on Wednesday 13 Apr 1687 the silver salver and linen aforementioned, the gift of the said Samuel Jones esq, lately deceased, was delivered up for the use of the church by me Thomas Hawes, vicar to Richard Witts, churchwarden, in the presence of Robert Gilmore, Thomas Jennings, Edward Appleford.

An account of the names of such persons who have had certificates in order to avouch for the cure of the disease called the King's Evil since my induction to the vicarage of Ramsbury: Sarah Appleford of Axford and John Newbury 22 Aug 1686; Anne Lay and Catherine Bayman, and Ursula Watts and Elizabeth Pearce 25 Aug 1686; Elizabeth Pithouse and Rebecca Kingstone 27 Aug 1686; Mary Long 27 Feb 1687; Grace daughter of Ed Knackstone 13 Mar 1687; Frances daughter of Thomas Allowe 17 Apr 1687.

An account of such persons as have been whipped and had passes: 26 May 1694 Mary wife of George Mason with five small children to Dover Kent; 15 Mar 1699 Susanna Ahead to Westbury under the Plain in Wilts; 1 Apr 1699 Anne Herring to St James Westminster.

General register, 1714-1754 (500/2)

Richard Garrard MA came curate at Michaelmas 1730 and was inducted [into the vicarage] 17 Dec 1737.

The 2 chandeliers in the church were put up by the Revd Richard Garrard, vicar and Benjamin Symonds, churchwarden, 27 Jun in the year 1751 and the money was £22 16s 6d; expended viz; branches £20 10s 6d, chains, painting and carriage £2 6s: Rose by the following subscriptions: Edward Popham £5 5s; William Jones esq £5 5s; Thomas Batson esq £1 1s; Revd Richard Garrard vicar 12s 6d; Mr Benjamin Symonds 10s 6d; Mr Thomas Rawlinson 10s 6d; Mr Barnabas Staples 10s 6d; Mr Joseph Stockwell 5s; Mr Barnabas Richens 5s; Widow Bell 5s; William Stroud 5s; John Izzard 5s; Mr Richard Richens 5s; James Blake 5s; Henry Blake 5s; Thomas Appleford 5s; Richard Rawlins 5s; Roger Spanswick 5s; John Cox 5s; John Appleford 5s; Richard Brunsdon 5s; Joseph Webb 5s; Joseph George 5s; Mr House (collector) 2s 6d; John Thomson 2s 6d; John Porter 2s 6d; John Porter 2s 6d; Richard Francis 2s 6d; John Webb 2s 6d; Mr Palmer 2s 6d; John Tuff 2s 6d; Widow Thomson 2s 6d; Widow Monday 2s 6d; Stephen Pullen 2s 6d; John Day 2s 6d; Stephen Izzard 2s 6d; William Webb 2s 6d; Anthony Stroud 2s 6d; Thomas Pobjay 2s 6d; Thomas Wells 2s 6d; John Pound 2s 6d; Mary Mabblerly 2s 6d; John Shilton 2s 6d; William George 2s 6d; William Goatly 2s 6d; David Wilson 2s 6d; Widow Moor 2s 6d; Widow Neat 2s 6d; John Bacon 2s 6d; Giles Lovegrove 2s 6d; Thomas Smart 2s 6d; Isaac Dance 2s 6d; Joseph Jennings 2s 6d; Thomas Sly 2s 6d; Thomas Mildenhall 2s 6d; Widow Woodroff 2s 6d; James Smith 2s 6d; Christopher Marten 2s 6d; Widow Phillips 2s 6d; Ed Phelph 2s 6d; William Johnson 2s 6d; Widow Manning 2s 6d; Henry Pullen junior 2s 6d; Joshua Wild 1s. Total £22 13s 6d.

'Memo on a flat stone on the north side of the church in the churchyard almost obliterated is the following epitaph:
 Here lies a piece of Christ, a star in Dust,
 A China Dish that in Heaven must
 Be used when God shall feed the Just,
 Aprov'd by all, and loved so well,
 Tho' young, like fruit when ripe she fell.'

Burial register, 1678-1751 (500/3)

The five Limes before the vicarage door was planted by Richard Garrard MA in 1738. Ditto the Ashes in 1744.

Baptism register, 1780-1812 (500/5)

14 Jan 1789 memo that a handsome metal basin for the font was presented by Sir William and Lady Jones. Edward Meyrick, vicar.

9 Mar 1800 Henry Wren was, upon the decease of Stephen Pullin, the late clerk, nominated parish clerk by me. Edward Meyrick, vicar.

In the year ending Easter 1801, the whole of the disbursements made by the overseers for the relief of the poor of this parish, amounted to £5070 18s 11d !!! Wheat sold from £40 to £50 the load of 40 bushels, Winchester measure barley from £4 10s to £6 6s the quarter and oats from 50s to £3 5s. Beef was at one time 9d, mutton 9½ d, veal 9d, and lamb 1s a pound; butter from 15d to 18d a pound and potatoes from 10s to 12s a sack of 3 bushels, and good old cheese at £5 the hundred weight; for pigs at 15s, and in some instances 18s the score.

13 Nov 1784 died Revd Richard Garrard, vicar of Ramsbury near fifty years, aged 82.

Memo that on 18 Feb 1785 Edward Meyrick, clerk (a native of Carmarthan-shire, South Wales), was inducted into the vicarage of Ramsbury after a sequestration of more than 15 months, on the presentation of the Lord Chancellor Thurlow and the unsolicited and indeed unexpected recommendation of the earl of Aylesbury and sir William Jones, of Ramsbury manor. The aforesaid Edward Meyrick, upon his induction found a wretched dwelling, decayed not so much by any neglect of his predecessor, as by time and the perishable nature of the materials, and though he obtained but £5 for dilapidations, £200 were immediately expended in repairing and improving the house. The whole front was raised and sashed, the east end entirely new built and the best parlour made where a little cabin of about 10 feet square stood before; the floors of the front chambers were new laid, and the roof throughout, between the years 1787 and 1800. Upwards of £300 more were expended by the incumbent in building the brew house, the pantry, the room over it, the room about the passage fronting the garden and the school room, the small beer cellar in the outer kitchen, repairing the pump building, the necessary, the scullery, coal house and hovel.

In repairing the stable, making the cart horse stable in the yard, new thatching the barn, building the brick and stone instead of mud walls, repairing and coping the same, improving the house in the street and making a shoemaker's shop at the west end of it. Planting and fencing the quickset and fir trees in the orchard with those in the churchyard and in the purchase of a pew in the church, which the vicar had no claim to before, and for which a subscription of 10 guineas was paid by Mr Meyrick, at the general repairs and improvements of the church in the year 1788.

Let his successors also know, that he found the living burdened with a mortgage originally £120, which a clause in The Allotting [*Enclosure*] Act for the parish passed in 1777, enabled Mr Garrard to take up, with the approbation of the commissioners acting under the said Bill and which was to be liquidated, agreeable to the said clause, by £4 annually of the principal and 5% interest upon the same; so that the whole may be paid in 30 years from the date of the deed, by which mortgage was charged upon the living, remains at this present writing (10 Jan 1800), of the above sum of £120, **£40 unpaid**. The Lord Chancellor usually inserted in his presentations, the chapel of Baydon, as an appendage of Ramsbury. But an opposite claim was occasionally set up and proved before a commission, held at Baydon in 1781 to have been exerted by the family of Jones of Ramsbury manor. The endowment at that period was **£6 a year** only paid by the said family, for which service was performed at Baydon 12 Sundays in the year. Lady Jones so successfully exerted her interest as to obtain by the king's sign manual a remuneration of all future claims by the Chancellor, and endowed the chapel with £800 to which the Governors of Queen Anne's Bounty added £1000 and the right of presentation is secured to the representatives of the said Lady Jones for ever. Be it further known to posterity that the aforesaid Edward Meyrick, found no fixtures of any kind upon or within the said premises, even the pump he was obliged to purchase of the representatives of his predecessor.

Should the house appear more than proportionate to so **small** a living, it is presumed that by pulling down the schoolroom and some other parts, not so immediately connected with the main building it may easily be reduced to a suitable extent, and the materials will pay the expenses. Happy would Mr Meyrick have found himself had it been his lot to contract rather than enlarge. Mr Meyrick derived no assistance, either in money, materials or carriage, either from his neighbours or any other quarter but accomplished the whole under providence out of his own resources- *Gloria Deo*.

NB that in the year 1800 Edward Meyrick did at his own expense, plant a quickset fence around the south and west sides of the vicar's allotment, called Swan Bottom, and planted 12 elms, 12 beech, 6 plane trees and 6 larch firs, and fenced them with good rails in the churchyard, the whole of which cost him £14 and upwards. He who unnecessarily cuts them or for purposes foreign to the good of the living and premises, 'sacer esto'. *Be sacered*.

About the commencement of the Nineteenth century [1801], an enumeration was made in obedience to the legislature of inhabited and uninhabited houses, families, males and females when the number of each in this parish

stood as under:

	Houses uninhabited	Houses inhabited	Families	Males
Ramsbury Town tithing	9	330	330	-
Park town tithing	0	22	5	62
Axford tithing	1	53	54	58
Whittonditch tithing	3	19	21	134
Eastridge tithing	4	22	27	-

Burial register, 1779-1812 (500/7)

The old mean thatched house in the street consumed by fire on 29 May 1781 was rebuilt by Revd Richard Garrard, vicar, and finished Oct 1782 at the expense of the then said Richard Garrard being allowed only £30 as insurance money. *This was the curate's house [Croucher p 101]*

RODBOURNE CHENEY

General register, 1653-1701 (680/1)

Joshua Harmer of Rodbourne Cheney sworn as parish register before Gabriel Martin, 30(sic) Feb 1654.

Excommunications published in the parish church since 25 Mar 1670: John Barget was pronounced excommunicate 8 Feb 1680 for contempt for not appearing unto a citation from the Prerogative court [*of the archbishop of Canterbury*]: Edith Sallys was pronounced excommunicate 1 Jul 1683 for contempt unto the archdeacon [*of Wilts*].

Memo that I Nicholas Adee, minister of Rodbourne Cheney did admit Thomas Flewister parish clerk of Rodbourne Cheney for one year only in Jul 1688. This is to testify that I did also declare, confirm and ordain him to be parish clerk for the term of his natural life on Sun 14 Jul 1689. In witness whereof I have hereunto subscribed my name, Nicholas Adee.

Notes of births and deaths of family and friends of Nicholas Adee, vicar include;

My very loving and much esteemed friend Wadham Strangways esq was barbarously killed in the Red Lion inn Bridport by a shot of many bullets from a blunderbuss from a party of Monmouth's rebels on Trinity Sunday 14 Jun 1685 and lays buried among his ancestors at Melbury Sampford, Dorsetshire.

General register, 1774-1812 (680/4)

No entry made in this register after 1774 by Mr Nelson but he sent an account of baptisms, yearly into the registrar's office where persons wishing to be certified of the baptism of any person in the parish of Rodbourne Cheney from 1774 to 1794 must apply. Note from the registrar that the transcripts are perfect between 1774 and 1794 for baptisms, marriages and burials, Oct 1855. Richard Dartnell vicar.

ROLLESTONE**General register, 1654-1714 (1336/71)**

Rollestone register book 1653 Edward Preston, clerk.

George Hadfeild, of Rollestone, clerk sworn as parish register before Edward Tooker, 21 Mar 1654.

Thomas Browne MA, clerk, inducted into the church of Rollestone by Mr Giles Thornborough, rector of Orcheston St Mary, 17 May 1679.

ROWDE**General register, 1606-1661 (505/2)**

25 Apr 1653 Thomas Till alias Eliott and John Brewer senior churchwardens, gave up their accounts to the parish: having received £10 13s 7d and disbursed £10 8s 10d, and there remains in their hands 4s 9d. Thomas Collyer minister, Amos Hope, Robert Steevens, Francis Ellyott.

16 Apr 1655 *As above for* Thomas Church and Samuel Webb overseers of the poor [*incomplete, no sums*].

John Hawkins was sworn as 'publique' parish register before Edward Baynton, 29 Sep 1653.

8 Oct 1680 memo that at a commission out of Chancery held at Market Lavington between John Trent, by his guardian, complainant, against Mary Trent and others, the register was produced to Thomas Waite senior and Thomas Waite junior, and sworn by them in their several examinations to the second interrogatory before us Walter Ernle, Thomas Baxter, Gifford Yerbury.

General register, 1661-1704 (505/3)

. . . the sum of £5 by the legacy of Mr John Harvest deceased to be improved yearly for the use of the poor of the parish of Rowde. Thomas Jekyll vicar, Zachery Patrick, William Bollwell, overseers of the poor who took the money, John Compton (X), churchwarden. *Part of this note of a bequest to the parish stock has been torn away. The will of John Harvest of Potterne was dated 1671. [P1/H/416].*

Richard Phelps was born in the parish of Rowde and was bound apprentice at London 25 Apr 1699, and was made a freeman of the company of plumbers, and also freeman of the city of London 9 Sep 1709 and this is his handwriting, 25 Oct 1710. *There are undated signatures in the register of Thomas Waite and Thomas Phelps, parish clerks, the latter a possible relative of Richard.*

Mr John Tise vicar was buried in Feb 1629; he was vicar in 1606. Mr Timothy Richards succeeded and was ejected about 1651 or 1652. Mr Thomas Collyer

usurped his place till the Restoration when Mr Timothy Richards was restored and was removed afterwards to Bromham and was succeeded I suppose by Mr Thomas Sims vicar, who was buried 12 May 1671. Mr Thomas Jekyll succeeded and left Rowde in Aug or Sep 1676. Mr John Hind succeeded and died 8 Jan, and was buried 30 Jan 1689. Mr William Smart succeeded and died 2 May 1703. Mr Latimer Crosse succeeded and was instituted 21 May following. *List compiled by Latimer Crosse vicar. The next register has a version of this list which was continued until 1911. Subsequent incumbents down to 1812 can be found in Phillippis.*

2 pair of Holland sheets; 1 pair of dowlas; 2 dozen of damask & towel; 2 dowlas napkins; 2 pair of Holland pillowcases; 1 pair of diaper tablecloths; 1 damask towel; 1 diaper towel. *Late 17th century.*

General register, 1704-1774 (505/4)

There is a detailed note by Latimer Crosse, 6 May 1706 about the order of the register, the cutting out of several leaves and gaps in the record. A similar note on the same date was written in the previous register about it and its predecessor [505/2-3] His meticulousness in record keeping is evidenced in his memoranda in the next register. A similar title was used in the subsequent register begun in 1774 [505/6], but no memorable events were recorded.

The register book of the parish of Rowde in the county of Wilts: for recording all marriages, births, baptisms, deaths and burials, and other memorable accidents which have or shall happen within the parish since 25 Mar in the year of our Lord God 1704.

This book was bought 1704 and it contains 48 leaves of parchment, the price 16s. Because there shall be no abuses by cutting out leaves etc I have numbered each leaf as I go on at the uppermost left hand corner of each leaf. To prevent any abuses by additions or interpolations, or by blotting out or any of the like methods I have also numbered the articles of each page at the bottom; except the first which is numbered at the top. By articles I mean only those things which are mentioned in the first column of each page.

At the end of this book in the paper leaves I have set down an account of all Briefs published since 25 Mar 1707, together with the time when published and the sums of money upon each brief and what day.

There are two other register books preserved. The former which begins 1606; the other in 1661. Both are in my hands 24 Jun 1704. See what I have wrote at the latter end of the last of the two former registers. Latimer Crosse.

1703 21 May Latimer Crosse had institution to the vicarage of Rowde from Gilbert, bishop of Salisbury, upon the presentation of Walter Ernle and John Baynton. 27 Nov there happened the most dreadful tempest which was ever known in the memory of man.

1704 In this year the chancel of the church was repaired by order and at the sole expense of Francis Stonehouse esq, impropiator of the glebe lands herebefore belonging to the parsonage of Rowde.

1707 Mr Edward Hope, lord of this manor, died suddenly 3 Feb and was

buried at Devizes 5 Feb.

1709 27 Jan Mr Latimer Crosse, vicar of this parish, quitted it by being instituted to the vicarage of Fordington in Dorset.

RUSHALL

General register, 1724-1812 (2183/2)

Notes by Thomas Giffard rector.

May 1729 I built the stable in the backside and planted the elms around the garden and made a wood house by the pigeon house.

May 1731 Dugged the well in the backside and planted the elm hedge in the garden.

Nov 1735 planted the lime hedge in the garden.

Jul 1738 rebuilt the north end of my house.

1738 the roof of the church new built.

1739 the church new plastered and whitened.

1740 rebuilt the south end of my house and new pointed the tiles.

1743 Planted the horse chestnuts at the ?seat and mended the tiling of the house and mended the roof.

SALISBURY ST EDMUND

General register, 1559-1653 (1901/1)

'newly wrytten out by Alexander Lawes mynister in 1594'

'A priest that can sing, whatsoever he be
is the fittest man and best welcome to me. Quoth WH.
What the ignorance of thys minister I pray you all beare:
That his latine was naught, you may see & heare'
'What part sing you? I pray tell
if sing you can I wil you place
what spottes you have all shal be well
I'll warrant you, & no disgrace. qd WH.'

These rhyming couplets were written by Nicholas King, minister from 1604, in spaces in the register of burials for 1560 and 1598.

'John Ward, sonne of Richard warde, buried 27 of Januarie 1606, at what time lucas received of the poore woman six pence, the clerke not being there, & yet was thereof no peny for the priest as he then said the worshipp of the parish will beare him out.' *Drawing of a fool's head in the margin.*

Know all men by these presents that I Peter Thacher, parson of the parish church of St Edmunds within the city of Sarum in the county of Wilts, clerk, being informed and also well knowing that William Fawconer the elder of the parish of St Edmund aforesaid in the city of Sarum and Katherine his wife are now both sick and diseased, upon their instance and request for the better preservation of their strength and recovery of their health, do so far forth as the law and statutes of this realm have in that case provided, license them

to eat such kind of flesh as the laws of this realm do allow, during the time of their sickness and no longer. In witness whereof I the said Peter Thacher have here set my hand the 18 day of March 1633.

Received of the abovenamed William Fawconer the 26 day of March 1633 to and for the use of the poor of the parish of St Edmunds the sum of 6s 8d. I say received by me, Richard Carter churchwarden. Registered 26 Mar 1633 by me Anthony Thacher, curate.

Similar license to eat meat during Lent granted to Rebecca Sherfield of St Edmund, 23 Feb 1634. Registered by Anthony Thacher, curate and witnessed by Thomas Hancock, churchwarden 3 Mar 1634.

Same for Mrs Lawes wife of Mr Thomas Lawes, of St Edmund, lately delivered of a child, 3 Mar 1634. Registered and witnessed as above, 11 Mar 1634.

Same for Anne Thacher wife of Peter Thacher, parson, 'knowing my wife Anne Thacher to be of a long time to have ben of so weake and sicke an estate of bodie that it cannot stand with the health and preservation thereof, for her to be abridged the eating of flesh and kept only to fish', 1 Mar 1634. Registered as above 8 Mar 1634. Witnessed by Thomas Lawes, churchwarden.

General register, 1653 -1699 (1901/2)

John Vyninge, clerk of the parish sworn as parish register before John Ivie, 19 Sep 1653.

26 Jun 1653 being the Lord's day a very great congregation being a . . . in the worship and service of God, were by his almighty power and providence preserved from the fall of the tower of the parish church which said tower with the bells fell the next day about 12 of the clock . . .

Wiliam Fox chosen clerk and register 24 Aug 1662.

Henry Cox rector was inducted 12 Sep 1663.

Daniel Whitby was elected rector 30 Dec 1668 and inducted 25 Feb 1669.

Memo that Mr George Marvin of St Edmund, gave unto the Chamber of this city a sum of money for the maintenance of an annual lecture to be preached by the minister of this parish in the afternoon and for the minister to be paid 20s a year for his pains and the lecture to be maintained perpetually and to begin 7 Sep 1672 (that is to say) the ensuing Sep after his wife's decease.

15 Sep 1685 was a certificate for Margery, wife of Daniel Wheatly, to be touched for the 'Evill', subscribed by Dr Daniel Whitby, rector and Mr Ed Wastfeild and Thomas Abbott, churchwardens and registered by me Thomas Clemens. The same day a certificate given for Anne, daughter of Daniel Wheatly, subscribed and entered as above. *Certificate for the touching for the King's Evil [scrofula]. In the same hand as the entries of baptisms, marriages and burials, so Clemens was presumably parish clerk.*

Thomas Naish elected rector 24 Apr 1694; inducted 28 Apr 1694. *The election by parishioners arose due to a dispute between the vestry and the bishop as to the right of presentation. See WRS vol 20 p8 n5.*

1695 2742 persons numbered in this parish; 2665 persons in St Thomas; 1569 persons in St Martin. *The census was probably taken as a result of the Act for taxation on births, marriages and burials, 1694.*

General register, 1700-1767 (1901/3)

Samuel Rolleston being lately presented by the bishop to the rectory was inducted 12 Jul 1731.

SALISBURY ST MARTIN

General register, 1559-1653 (1899/1)

Title page states that it was written by me Thomas Smythe, parish clerk in 1599.

General register, 1653-1703 (1899/2)

John Odwell chosen parish register 19 Sep 1653, was sworn before Thomas Raye, mayor, 1 Oct 1653.

Richard Hill chosen as parish register by the consent of the churchwardens and the rest of the vestry 2 Jul 1655; sworn by Thomas Hancocke, a justice of the peace in Salisbury, 4 Jul 1653.

Thomas Holmes chosen parish clerk, 2 May 1691.

SALISBURY ST THOMAS

General register, 1530-1561 (1900/4) *A collection of loose pages of draft records kept by the parish clerk, including payments to the churchwardens for the communion, 'holy cacke', and the services of burial, marriage and churching of women 'church wyffe'.*

'Coume over the borne besse my lytyll prety swette besse com over
To me the water is not depe be ware thow do note slepe biott awake
and come over too me

The born is the worlde blinde & bessye is mankynde

Whom christe hathe bowghte soo free yn sine hathe line slayne.' *Written at the head of the baptisms for 1561. The first part is an extract from an Elizabethan ballad; the second a religious interpretation of it; both were identified by Canon Christopher Wordsworth [WNE&Q vol 5 p377-8]*

'156- the 23 of dessembar it was a gred Mr mayer, Mr hoppar, Mr whyllyam webe, Mr catar, Mr wekys, Mr esskot, Mr wylltun, Mr Lenard, Mr wellkeke, Mr tanner, Mr Jhams, Mr Jhon eyer. It was a gred be fore all thys masstars in the vestry that Mr Jhon eyer Sholld entar in band for the mony dew to the church to paye over low Sunday xv t...r So to paye yerely x li ... tyll all where payd' *The meaning is unclear, but in the churchwardens accounted for the receipt of £40 on 4 bonds, and £30 on 3 bonds from Mr John Eyre, and Mr John Eyre junior in 1561, 1562 [1900/76]*

General register, 1570-1653 (1900/5)

1646 since the beginning of 1646 many children have been privately baptized at home; the parents concealing it from both the minister and the clerk. The names therefore of any children so baptized cannot hereafter be required at the hands of the keeper of this public register who was at this time John King, parish clerk.

1653 For this seven years past many parents, refusing to bring their children into the public congregation to be baptized, have had them secretly baptized in their own houses without the consent of our reverend late pastor Mr John Conant and concealed their names from the keeper of this public register; therefore it cannot be expected their names should be found therein. By me John Powell who was then parish clerk.

This 20 Sep 1653 at a meeting of the parishioners of St Thomas' parish, the said parishioners made choice of John Kinge, then their parish clerk, also to be parish register; sworn by Thomas Raye, mayor; Isaac Acourte, John Packer, churchwardens. *Another record of the appointment of King as parish register is written in the next register 1653-1741[1900/6]. He was also sworn by the mayor in the presence of Mr Edward Edmonds, Mr Thomas Oriat and Mr Thomas Batter. King signed as parish register for the sums collected from briefs in 1660-1661 also in this later register.*

SEAGRY**General register, 1610-1710 (2096/1)**

Memo that William Blakmore of Berwick Bassett has bequeathed towards the reparation of the parish church of Seagry 40s at 12d a pound from churchwardens to churchwardens for ever. *Buried 26 Jul 1614; no will traced.*

Same from Richard Bathrye of Seagry; 10s at 8d a year. *Buried 6 Feb 1621; no will traced.*

Same from William Jounes of Seagry, clerk; 5s at 4d a year. *Jones was vicar of Seagry; his will was proved 25 Jan 1627 [TNA PROB 11/151].*

General registers, 1711-1761, 1762-1811 (2096/2) *A gathering of two books.*

At a vestry held in the parish church of Seagry in the year 1737 consent was given for Mr John Hollis to erect a pew in the church and to take in the passage between Mr Stratton's aisle and the body of the church: Provided that Mr Robert Stratton and his successors shall always have the privilege of going from his aisle to the church the usual way. Witness William Pulsford, vicar of Seagry.

No affidavit brought to me William Pulsford certifying that < Catherine Richmond >, buried 5 Sep 1739, was buried in woolen only whereof notice was given to the churchwarden 21 of the same month: By me William Pulsford. *Described as a widow in the record of her burial.*

Had tithe in kind of Nathaniel Houlton esq and William Adye throughout the

year 1742. To wit tithe milk, calf, lamb, wool, apples, eggs etc. NB the miller of Seagry mill has paid 6s 8d yearly at Lammas [1 Aug] for the mill wheel.

This book was bought by Mr Leacham in 1763 when Dr [John] Thomas, lord bishop of this diocese visited at Chippenham and the first year I was instituted to Seagry. Benjamin Rogers, vicar.

NB The erasure in the 18th page of this book appears to have been a memorandum of the time that the late Revd Benjamin Rogers was absent from this parish during his residence at Rainscombe [*in Wilcot*]. *The gap in the register is from Aug 1800-May 1801.*

Marriage register, 1754-1811 (2096/3)

29 Nov 1739 I came to live in the parish of Seagry in the county of Wilts forty years ago last Lady day [25 Mar] and have lived in the parish ever since that time and I found it the custom of the parish when I first came to pay Easter Offerings which I have paid (or my husband for me) ever since I first came into the parish, if demanded, the accustomed money for Easter offerings is 2d for every person above 16 years of age and Mr Symons, when alive, used to fetch the money himself; witness my hand Mary Cary (X); in the presence of Ayloff Henry Richmond.

20 Nov 1739 I was possessed of my estate about the time that Mr Symons our late vicar died. Since that time I have paid a composition tithe to Mr Pulsford our present vicar and likewise Easter Offerings for I am well assured that the payment of Easter offerings is an ancient custom in the parish of Seagry: Witness my hand John Hibard.

23 Nov 1739 I do hereby certify that I rented Seagry mill 12 years in Mr Symond's time, that I paid 6s 8d every year for the tithe of the mill and likewise Easter Offerings every year either in money or fish. I do likewise declare that I have paid a composition tithe for the herbage and fruit of my orchard and garden and Easter Offerings besides, to our present vicar Mr Pulsford for several years past and I do acknowledge the payment both of the tithes and offerings to be the custom of Seagry; witness my hand William Brabons (X).

21 Nov 1739 I do hereby testify that I was a house keeper in the parish of Seagry above 30 years and that I paid 4d every year for Easter Offerings; viz 2d for myself and 2d for my wife. I was born in the parish of Seagry about 79 years ago and I don't remember that any person in the parish at any time refused to pay Easter Offerings; witness my hand the mark of Richard Phillips in the presence of J Campbell.

27 Nov 1739 I was born in the parish of Seagry in the year 1690 and have lived in the said parish ever since. I have paid yearly to the minister of the parish of Seagry since my father's death (who died about 27 years ago) tithes either in money or kind and likewise Easter Offerings; and I do acknowledge the payment of Easter Offerings to be the custom of the parish of Seagry; witness my hand Henry Freeme; signed in the presence of John Pears.

Christopher Symonds was vicar 1666-1724; William Pulsford was vicar from 1724-1750. The documents are all written by the same hand and were pasted into the register, presumably as evidence in a case about the payment of tithes and Easter offerings.

SEEND**General register, 1612-1681 (1048/2)**

The register of names of such as have been taken wandering contrary to the statute and punished for the same 1618: Laurence Price, being a vagrant, was whipped 4 Dec and sent to Reading in the county of Berks where he affirmed he was born. *Probably the Act against vagrants, 1609/10.*

General register, 1681-1721 (1048/3)

Mr Smart preached at Seend 16 Mar 1690; Mr Smith same 29 Mar; Mr Marings same 30 Mar; Poulshot's minister same 6 Mar; Colerne's minister same 13 Mar; Poulshot's minister same 20 Mar. *These were probably annual sermons.*

SEMLEY**General register, 1709-1779 (552/1)**

Revd Mr John Phillips, late rector of Semley, died at Shaftesbury 4 Apr 1735. Revd Mr David Gregory was inducted to the parish 7 Jun 1735, according to the mandate of the bishop of Salisbury in the presence of Revd Mr Gyllett and Robert Gauntlet esq. John Willesford curate.

List of rectors [*all in Phillipp's*]; with the additional detail that Lewis Stephens, who resigned in 1800, died at Langford Oxfordshire 27 Oct 1803.

SEVENHAMPTON**General register, 1649-1663 (1818/66)**

Title page written by Henry Dudley minister. *His son was baptized in the parish 3 May 1657.*

Henry Harbert of Sevenhampton sworn as parish register before Gabriel Martin, 20 Feb 1654.

Thomas Baker alias Chapman of Sevenhampton, husbandman, sworn as parish register before William Sadler, no date, 1654x1657.

SHALBOURNE**General register, 1672-1760 (534/1)**

William Bunce was nominated parish clerk, Jan 1753.

Revd Mr Thomas Stockwell MA was inducted into the vicarage of Shalbourne by Revd Mr Roger Brint, curate of Shalbourne, 21 Feb 1741.

A procession round the parish of Shalbourne: be it remembered that on 24 & 25 May 1756, being Monday and Tuesday in Rogation Week, Thomas Stockwell vicar, John Burgess and Thomas Pocock churchwardens of Shalbourne in company with Edward Woodbridge of Bagshot, John Barns

the younger, aged about 15, Thomas Barns, aged 14, sons of John Barns of this parish and William Cooper aged 10 years, went a procession round the boundaries of the whole parish of Shalbourne: Beginning at a place called Ham Townsend: from thence round Bitham Lands to Prosperous farm, leaving a farm called Poppingjay's on the right hand, the boundaries of this parish leading through the garden of Prosperous farm; from thence leaving Cook's Hill on the right through a coppice called Cooper's, about an acre, of which on the north east side is in the parish of Hungerford, a swampy place through the coppice being the boundary; from thence across Stocklands to Bagshot mill, the meadow on the south east side of the stream being in the parish of Shalbourne; from thence up stream to that part of Westcot which divides Shalbourne from Hungerford; from thence returning by Westcot coppice, a strip of which is in the parish of Hungerford, to the farm occupied by John Mortimer; from thence to the west corner of Standing Middle Cow lease; from thence to the north east corner of Catmore Rag; from thence in a straight line to the north east corner of the nearer Widow's close, leaving a chalk pit in Catmore close on the right; from thence round the farther Widow's close through Stipe wood, the boundaries of Mr Stonehouse's wood called Stipe including a piece of arable land called Harlys on the north west end, being the boundary of the parish; from thence leaving an enclosure called Pedlers Piece on the right up Heath lane; from thence leaving Mr ?Street's wood of Little Bedwyn on the right through enclosures called Heath Grounds in a line almost straight to Merry Hill Down coppice, leaving which on the right to Newtown Drove (look to the left), which is the boundary of the parish, as far as Vicars croft, which adjoins to Harding farm grounds and coppice; from thence round lands belonging to Harding farm; from thence to Wilton down and over Botley, leaving Botley Lains on the left; from thence to the farthest point of Beacons farm; from thence round the boundary between Oxenwood and Fosbury to Ashley wood; and down the hill on the boundary between Ham and Shalbourne. Thomas Stockwell, vicar.

General register, 1760-1785 (534/2)

George Mackness Johnson was appointed curate of Shalbourne 29 Sep 1818 and commenced residence 20 Nov 1818.

General register, 1783-1817 (534/4)

Verses written by George Macness Johnson, curate, c 1820.

By the record of the burial of William Hughes a wandering traveller 16 Mar 1784;

'Driven oh! Abandon'd on the world's wide stage
And doom'd in scanty poverty to roam
He sought a refuge from the Tempest's rage
And found a grave, the wand'rer's only home.' G[eorge] M[acness] Johnson
, no date c 1820.

For those who may peruse this register a hundred years hence:
For thee, whose curious Time retracing eye,

Reviews these records of a long past day:
 Oh! May the task awake Reflection's sigh,
 Nor Folly steal the sacred truth away.

Yes they are past, to dust and silence gone,
 Like flitting shadows o'er the vernal plain,
 They who in youth, in pride, in beauty shone,
 And humbler they, the sons of grief and pain.

They liv'd , they died, the destiny of all:
 Oh! mark the lesson cull'd from Wisdom's store
 Thou too, must one day yield to Death's dread call
 And pass like them, to dark Oblivion's shore.
 Sept 4 1819.

To dark oblivion! Hence delusion drear,
 (Recorded high the glorious truth remains)
 Tho' through long ages yet, no taken peer
 And mystic silence broods o'er Death's domains.

Yet shall it come, the wish'd for, dreaded day
 Th' Arch – Angel's voice shall rend th' obstructing clod,
 Recal each atom of the sleeping clay,
 And bid th' astonish'd dead behold their God.

Thou too shalt live: for know th' Almighty will
 To raise thy views or check thy pride hath given
 To thee the hope of future good or ill,
 Thine endless woe, or thine the bliss of heav'n.

Does Reason dictate? Does Religion warn?
 Give then to Wisdom ev'ry fleeting hour,
 On guilt and Folly tread with holy Scorn,
 And thou shalt triumph o'er Oblivion's pow'r.
 Oct 1.

SHERRINGTON

General register, 1677-1744 (1508/1)

Memo of the subscription of Thomas Lambert DD, rector, canon residentiary and archdeacon of Sarum to the 39 Articles of Religion, 12 Nov 1677.
 Witness: William Smart curate, Ed Thick. *In Latin.*

General register, 1744-1812 (1580/2)

Received 2 May 1760 of Revd Mr Richard Head of £67 being money heretobefore given and some time since deposited in his hands to and for the use of the poor of Sherrington: And I do promise to pay to the minister, churchwardens and overseers of the poor of the parish of Sherrington that

sum on demand together with interest after the rate of £4 for a £100 by the year from 25 Dec last past, Mr Head having paid the interest from the said 25 Dec until the date hereof. Witness my hand William Lambert. Witness B Thring. Same by Thomas Davies, rector received on 21 Dec 1812 of Mrs Lynam of Boyton with interest from 21 Dec last past. 15 Jan 1813. Witness: Thomas Mussell. Same by Thomas Alford and Thomas Mussell churchwardens, received 10 Sep 1833 from Mrs Jane Davies, widow and executrix of Revd Thomas Davies, late rector. Witness; D Williams, perpetual curate of Heytesbury.

Richard Head MA rector died 10 Feb 1772; Richard Scrope DD was instituted 4 Mar and inducted 20 Mar 1772.

SHERSTON

General register, 1654-1679 (1049/1)

Mr Henry Hayes, vicar of Sherston, sworn as parish register before William Shute, 9 Feb 1654.

SHREWTON

The registers were transcribed by Revd J Bennett, vicar of Shrewton in 1890 and that work forms the basis of the material below.

General register, 1557-1646 (1336/1)

A note on the cover records that the register remained in the possession of the Wansbrough family and was returned to the parish, at the request of Revd J Bennett, by Charles Wansbrough on 2 Apr 1860.

9 Mar 1600: For as much as there has been in this parish of Shrewton of ancient time (out of mind) a court baron continued and yearly for the most part held and kept within the manor of Shrewton, wherein orders were taken and ratified for the better government and quiet estate of all the freeholders, tenants and commoners within the said parish by virtue of the said court, and all such persons as were irregular and disordered were there amerced and paid the ameracements and penalties by way of distress to the lord royal of the manor until that of late in the year 1596: The manor was dismembered by sale of the land to divers persons, and most part to the tenants themselves. Since which time divers disorders have been committed to the great hurt and detriment of the greater part of the freeholders, tenants and commoners, and to the breach of Christian charity and peace of the neighbourhood: For reformation whereof and at the earnest persuasion of Nicholas Barlowe, clerk, we the freeholders, tenants and commoners whose names and marks are hereunto subscribed do with one accord agree, consent, determine and ratify that these orders following shall be inviolably kept observed, binding ourselves, our heirs and assigns to the due observation thereof; and of every part and parcel thereof from henceforth for ever. And for the better corroboration hereof we have caused these orders to be ingrossed in this register book to remain in perpetual record: Edward Estcourte, Nicholas Barlowe clerk,

Thomas Tooker. William Goldesboroughe (X), Robert Wansborowe (X), John Smith (X), William Barlowe, Robert Pirrey (X), Nicholas Gylbert (X), Agnes Barlowe widow (X), Richard Munda, John Gylbert alias Netton (X), John Wilsher (X), William Woodroofe (X), Richard Gylbert alias Netton, John Broxwell, Robert Kellow, Robert Sutton (X), John Gylbeard, Robert Jennings, William Chandler, John Kellawaye (X), Edmund Blanchard (X). *Munda, Broxwell, Kellow, Jennings and Chandler are in the same hand as those who made their mark and were probably not authenticated in that way.*

Imprimis because we have heard by old men and find by ancient records in divers copies of the court roll that no freeholder, tenant or commoner did heretobefore in right keep any rother beasts in the fields of Shrewton or Netton, which of late years they have usurped the same, we do now therefore agree, consent and order that from henceforth not any freeholder, tenant or commoner in Shrewton or Netton, their deputies or servants, shall keep any kind of rother beasts in the fields of Shrewton or Netton (except such calves as they shall breed of their own being under the age of one year in Netton field only), to depasture and feed, upon pain to forfeit for every beast so depasturing for every day 12d to the poor of this parish.

2. Item it is likewise agreed and ordered that from the feast of St Michael [29 Sep] yearly until 1 Aug not any freeholder, tenant or commoner, their deputies or servants shall keep, tie or leaze any horse beast, or beasts, in the fields or downs of Shrewton upon pain to forfeit for every horse beast so offending for every day 12d. And that no freeholder, tenant or commoner shall keep, tie or leaze any horse beast, or beasts in the fields of Shrewton or Netton from the feast of St Martin [11 Nov] yearly until 1 Aug upon pain to forfeit for every horse so offending for every day 12d, and from St Luke's day [18 Oct] they shall take their horses from the field every night home.

3. Item it is ordered and agreed that from henceforth it shall not be lawful for any freeholder, tenant or commoner in Shrewton to breed above 12 lambs upon a yardland, or above 10 lambs upon a yardland in Netton upon pain to forfeit for every lamb that they or their assigns shall keep or cause to be kept over and above the said number 6d for every week so offending to the poor of this parish.

4. Item the lambs shall be accompted sheep and go in sheep's places yearly at St Luke's day.

5. Item the ewes, hogs, and other feeble sheep shall be yearly drawn from the flock of Shrewton and Netton by the discretion of the greatest part of the freeholders, tenants or commoners and the shepherd of the same flock, and kept by one common shepherd in the frith or other place as by them shall be thought most convenient for their better preservation, and it is ordered that no tenant, commoner or freeholder, their children or servants shall keep or leaze any sheep or lambs of Shrewton or Netton at any time of the year from the common flock upon pain to forfeit for every such offence 5s to the poor.

6. Item it is ordered that if any freeholder, tenant or commoner in Shrewton or Netton shall hereafter keep any 'cottrell' whose stones are not clean cut out shall, after 3 days warning, forfeit the same sheep or other beast to the poor of this parish. *Cottrell is from the Latin cotterellus meaning a tegg, a male sheep less than one year old.*

7. Item it is ordered that if any freeholder, tenant or commoner in Shrewton or Netton shall want any hurdles at the fold of Shrewton or Netton by the space of 6 days shall forfeit for every hurdle so wanting, after warning given him or them by the shepherd, 12d.

8. Item it is ordered and agreed that if any freeholder, tenant or commoner in Shrewton or Netton, their children or servants shall from henceforth keep or suffer any of their swine in the fields of Shrewton or Netton from St Martin's day [11 Nov] until 1 Aug yearly shall forfeit for every swine so offending for every day 6d to the poor.

9. Item it is ordered and agreed that if any freeholder, tenant or commoner of Shrewton or Netton shall suffer any of their swine to go in the fields of Shrewton or Netton unringed shall after <warning given> for every such swine unringed forfeit 6d to the poor of the parish.

10. Item because there has been heretofore great harm done in the corne by negligence of children and servants in keeping of swine, it is now therefore ordered and agreed that from henceforth one common hogherd shall be provided nominated and appointed by the most voices of the freeholders, tenants and commoners to keep all the swine in Shrewton, and one other common hogherd to keep all the swine in Netton and such wages or stipend as most of the said commoners shall agree upon, for and with the said hogherd, and every freeholder, tenant or commoner in Shrewton or Netton, their deputies or tenants shall from henceforth keep their own swine upon pain to forfeit for every day so offending 12d.

11 Item because the flocks of Shrewton and Netton have been heretofore (and now at this present) unprovided of hay in the extremity of winter by which means many sheep have perished, for the reformation we do now order and agree that from henceforth yearly at the feast of St John the Baptist [21 Jun], commonly called Midsummer's day, that every freeholder, tenant or commoner in Shrewton or Netton shall then provide and deliver yearly 5s of currant money for every yardland which he or they hold unto 2 indifferent men, which shall be yearly chosen, nominated and appointed by the most voices, to buy and provide hay for the flocks of Shrewton and Netton for that year following, and whosoever having sheep of his own or of others in his leaze in either of the said flocks that shall make default of payment of the said sum of 5s the yardland being required or demanded by the said purveyors or their assigns, that then it shall be lawful to and for the said purveyors of hay or their assigns to impound or distrain the sheep going or depasturing in or upon the leaze of any such freeholder, tenant or commoner making such default of payment. And the same sheep so impounded to detain until the said sum or sums of money be satisfied and paid to the use aforesaid.

12. Item if any freeholder, tenant or commoner in Shrewton or Netton or their assigns shall keep or have any sheep or lambs over leaze or above ordinary stint shall forfeit for every such sheep or lamb for every 3 days 6d to the poor.

13. Item it is ordered and agreed that there shall be a hayward chosen and nominated by the most voices of the freeholders, tenants and commoners of Shrewton and Netton, and that the hayward shall have yearly for his wages 3d for every yardland over and beside his pound pence <and his hayward's hook>.

14. Item for the better preserving and orderly keeping of these orders it is

agreed that it shall be lawful to and for any one freeholder, tenant or commoner in Shrewton or Netton to impound the cattle of any other freeholder, tenant or commoner whosoever then shall at any time or times hereafter make any default or breach of any of these orders and the same cattle so impounded to detain and withhold until all such sum or sums of money forfeited as by any article or articles, particularly or severally is mentioned, be fully satisfied or paid to the overseer of the poor.

15. In consideration of these orders agreed upon for the better keeping of our horses and plough beasts in the summertime, it is ordered and agreed that from henceforth, it shall be lawful to and for every freeholder, tenant and commoner in Shrewton or Netton yearly to plough and sow 1 acre for every yardland which he or they, his or their assigns, hold in the summer fields of Shrewton and Netton with peas or other lent grain in such place or places as is or shall be agreed upon by the greater part of the freeholders, tenants and commoners or their assigns indifferently to be assigned that no man be wronged and he that time 'listeth' not to sow his land in such place, may lawfully take the herbage thereof properly to himself for that season.

Nicholas Gilbert is appointed hayward.

16. and it is further ordered and agreed on by the freeholders, tenants and commoners of Shrewton and Netton that from henceforth if any of them shall keep any horse beasts or rother beasts above the former rates in the common fields contrary to the orders before mentioned that he or they will forfeit for every time so offending the sum of 3s 4d to be levied to the use of the poor of the said parish.

17. And it is further agreed that no geese shall be kept or suffered to go in any part of the common fields of Netton at any time upon pain of forfeiture for every goose so offending 4d, likewise to be collected to the use of the poor of the said parish.

Memo that on Procession day 15 May 1626 there being question of the dividing of the Vic[arage] acre in the North Bottom from William Gilbert's which shoots upon him, it was decided by George Gilbert viz. that they did part in the middle of the eleventh acre from the beginning of the vicarage acre fieldward that did shoot upon them unto which they were headland, whereby they were agreed. Present Richard Fishlake, William Phillips and Nicholas Collett.

Themo that an exchange of two half acres of arable land was made between Thomas Gilbert alias Netton and the vicar of Shrewton, lying in Middle Hurst field; the vicar having one half of Thomas Gilbert by his own half shooting athwart the south bottom for another half by Thomas Gilbert in the said field shooting against the fieldward and homeward being headland in part unto the furlong shooting against Shrewton field, the other had the ... of ground, being about 38 lugs of ground allowed him out of 2 acres of Thomas Gilbert's land lying by an acre of the vicarage at a place called Col-lie cross and after the same allowance was allotted forth a lynch was allotted and left between Thomas Gilbert's land and the vicarage, the Vicarage acre being lynchd in on both sides as it was before.

General register, 1651-1724 (1336/2)

Given in the parish of Shrewton Virgo towards the instructing and relieving of Indians in New England as follows: by John Hilman minister there 5s; John Gilbert alias Netton 4s; Thomas Cartwright 2s 6d; Robert Wansborough 1s 6d; Mrs Goldisboroughe 1s 6d; Robert Goldisboroughe 1s 6d; Robert Hughes 1s; James Langley 1s; Nicholas Peirce 1s; Nicholas Mundy 6d; Henry Coker 4d; Robert Jennings 2d. The sum is £1. *Written at the start of the entries for 1653.*

Robert Selwood of Shrewton Virgo, tailor, sworn as parish register before Edward Tooker 14 Feb 1654

William the son of Sarah the wife of Isaac Emesbury of Beer Easton (as she affirmed in the county of Somerset; Sarah coming to Mr Cartwright's the Maidenhead Inn in man's habit and riding according to the custom of men was presently on her alighting and taking her chamber by herself delivered of this child) and the child (as was supposed) in danger of death was baptized with the form of private baptism 10 Jun 1692.

William Scanderbeg the son of the man woman jockey was buried 18 Jul 1692. *There is no place in Somerset of this name which adds to the mystery of the incident. Batheaston or Beer Crocombe or Bere Alston in Devon are possibilities. There are several references in the 17th century registers to Shrewton Virgo, probably reflecting the dedication of the church to the Virgin Mary. The name of the inn cannot be unrelated to this.*

Memo of all their names that have bought their seats of Mr Robert Goldesborough and of Mr Robert Wansbrough and have given 5s a piece for their seats in the gallery in the parish church of Shrewton:

The names of all those who have places in the fore seat: Mr Robert Goldesborough 5s; Christopher Sutton *Charles Kellow, Thomas Chambres* 5s; Samuel Garratt *Timothy Whithorn, Robert Whitehorne* 5s; John Alexander *Robert Whitehorne* 5s; Thomas Whithorn *Robert Whitehorne* 5s; John Sopp *Thomas Mogg, John Newbery* 5s; James Harris *Timothy Whitehorne* 5s.

Second seat: Mr Robert Goldsborough 5s; Robert Munday 5s; William Giles *Stephen Smith* 5s; Robert Sopp *Walter Axford, John Light* 5s; Robert Peirce 5s; John Peerce 5s; John Abrey *George Wise, Robert Whitehorn* 5s.

The names of all those who have places in the third seat: John Wansborough *Gabriel Harding, Thomas Combe, Ambrose Garrett* 5s; William Alexander *Robert Whitehorn* 5s; John Horder *Mr Robert Gennings, Samuel Maber* 5s; Henry Miles *Thomas Mogg* 5s; William Loader *John Blewdon, Samuel Blewdon* 5s.

The names of all those who have places in the fourth seat: Richard Brown the vicarage seat *and Mrs Elizabeth his sister* 10s; Ann Wansborough *Gabriel Harding, George Weston* 5s; Mary Carter *Robert Saunders* 5s; Mr Robert Goldisborough 5s.

Undated but probably 1662 when the churchwardens held office together, a date suggested by the writing, which is in the same hand as the register for around 1660. Names in italics, added from the late 17th until early 18th centuries, record the

changes of occupancy over this period.

6 Nov 1670 Monies collected at Shrewton to redeem the Christian slaves under the Turkish slavery:

Richard Bigge vicar 1s; Robert Goldisbury 1s; Robert Wansbury senior 6d; Robert Wansbury junior 4d; Nathaniel Coster 8d; John Gilbert 6d; James Langly 4d; Timothy Whitehorne 6d; George Whitehorne 6d; Widow Prdy 2d; Widow Whitehorne 2d; Widow Perce 1d; John Hibert 6d; Robert Huse 2d; Robert Selwood 2d; Robert Starre 2d; John Longe 2d; John Blewden 6d; John Smith 3d; Robert Gennings 4d; John Gilbert 6d. Sum 8s 4d.

Richard Bigge vicar, Robert Gouldsbury, Nathaniel Coster churchwardens.

Memo that Henry Soppe of this parish for and in consideration of 3s by the yardland for every yardland making, or which ought to make the bounds of the churchyard in Shrewton on the south side thereof, except for the bounds belonging to William Gilbert, has undertaken to discharge for ever the occupants of all the yardlands, except those belonging to William Gilbert, of all the bounds belonging to any of them for and on the south side of the church of Shrewton. Agreed and registered 27 Sep 1659. John Hillman minister.

Memo that Henry Soppe, son of Henry Soppe abovementioned, of this parish, for and in consideration of 9s has undertaken to discharge for ever John Gilbert, the son of William Gilbert before excepted, for his part of the bounds on the south side of the churchyard of Shrewton belonging to his 3 yardlands: Agreed and registered 11 Mar 1684 John Ellis minister.

Memo the above mentioned Henry Soppe of this parish, for and in consideration of 6s, has undertaken to discharge for ever Mr John Gilbert of Maddington for his part of the bound in the south side of the churchyard of Shrewton belonging to his 2 yardlands which were formerly in the possession of William Gilbert before excepted: Agreed and registered 28 Mar 1684. John Ellis minister.

Mr Ginnings sold John Alexander a seat in the church 1704. Mr Ernle gave ?John Dire a seat in the gallery and Abraham Harden a seat in the gallery in the year 1709.

Memo John Peirce has sold to Robert Gennings all his right and title in the 3rd seat from the minister's reading pew, 18 Mar 1715.

Memo Elias South has sold to John Alexander all his right and title in the seat in the north side of the church joining to the wall, 2 Apr 1714.

Memo John Coster left to his grandson Richard Dighton the seat in the north aisle which was built by the said John Coster and given as aforesaid, that his grandson might have a seat in the church, there being before no seat belonging to the Dightons, 14 Mar 1720; Thomas Higgons minister.

General register, 1724-1758 (1336/3)

4 Oct 1725 Memo that Thomas Mog of Upton Lovell mason, now dwelling in this parish, has purchased of Thomas Ford of this parish labourer, for the sum of 6s (already paid and received) all the title of the said Thomas Ford to

one seat for a woman in the lowermost seat, save one, of this parish church; which seat Thomas formerly purchased for the sum of 6s of Robert Selwood of this parish tailor (as appears by a writing of Thomas signed and sealed by Robert and witnessed by Thomas Browne vicar of Shrewton and Mary Browne) who had before purchased it of Robert Wansbrough and John Netton alias Gilbert, churchwardens of this parish; Humphrey Tedstill minister.

1748 memo that the gallery, built in the north aisle of this parish church, the seats therein are the property of the persons hereafter mentioned:

The names of those who have sittings in the fore seat: George Best 8s; John Mogg 8s; George Weston 6s; Daniel Wheeler >Thomas Munday< 6s; Timothy Whitehorn >Joseph Ware< 6s; Henry Mundy 6s; James Windsor 6s.

The names of those who have sittings in the second seat: Thomas Mundy 7s; George Wood 7s, Richard Cotterel 5s 6d, [*now both seats*] Abraham Mundy; George Weston 5s 6d; John Priddy 5s 6d.

The names of those who have sittings in the third seat: Robert Saunders 5s 6d; Daniel South 5s; Henry Francis 5s; Joseph Kellow 5s. *Names added probably late 18th century.*

General register, 1757-1790 (1336/4)

John Collins was collated to the vicarage of Shrewton 3 Nov 1767 and inducted into it by Revd Mr Head, rector of Orcheston St Mary 4 Nov 1767.

SOMERFORD KEYNES

Transferred to Gloucestershire in 1897

General register, 1560-1737 (GA P303 IN 1/1)

George Reading clerk buried 15 Dec 1642.

John Turner minister was married 12 Aug 1655.

John Brown sworn as parish register before Gabriel Martyn, 10 Mar 1654.
Robert Wilkins sworn as parish register before Gabriel Martyn, 28 Jan 1656.

Memorandum: That it was agreed by the consent of the inhabitants of this parish that Thomas Hardman and George Ussold should give bond to the overseers of the parish of Cricklade St Mary that the said parish 'should not be in any way damnified by the means that on John Hanle of the said parish labourer has taken upon him to keep on Anne Hanle' a bastard child born within this parish, and the inhabitants of this parish have undertaken to save harmless the said Thomas Hardman and George Ussold and their executors from all damage or hurt that by them unto the said bond may happen unto them. Witnesses John Sneade, Samuel Witcom. *Undated, early 17th cent; John Sneade, vicar of Somerford Keynes, died in 1639. This is a rather convoluted bastardy bond whereby Somerford Keynes indemnifies Cricklade St Mary from any expense involving the maintenance of Anne, an illegitimate child.*

General register, 1737-1805 (GA P303 IN 1/2)

List of vicars: John Snead, 1596-1639; John Turner before 1655; John Turner, his son, died 1741, aged 83; Stephen Philips, -1743 (from Bisley) Mr Dry, -1795; Joseph Ogle, -1803; Nathaniel George Woodroffe, Mar 1803-1849. *A receipt, dated 6 Oct 1746 for the payment of £10 for tithes due at Michaelmas by Gorges Foyle esq to Revd Stephen Philips, was copied into the register to query the dates of his incumbency. According to the bishops registers he served as vicar from 1741-1751.*

1816 the bishop confirmed 9 girls and 6 boys.

General register, 1800-1812 (GA P303 IN 1/4)

Joseph Williams elected parish clerk by Revd Nathaniel George Woodroffe, in the room of William Woodward deceased, 29 Nov 1818.

The silver salver weighing 9oz 2dwt was given to the parish on Easter day, 11 Apr 1819, by NG Woodroffe vicar.

Copy of the gift of £50 for the Second Poor, who have not received parochial relief within one year, of the his native parish of Latton by Robert Habgood, 19 Mar 1812; copied by Revd NG Woodroffe from the original in the possession of the widow of Revd John Lyne, vicar of Latton, 22 Feb 1822.

SOUTHBROOM

General register, 1572-1685 (594/2)

Forasmuch as Mrs Sara Drewe of Southbroom within the parish of Bishops Cannings having been very dangerously sick ever since the beginning of August last and being not yet recovered of the said sickness but continuing weak and ill, is hereby enforced to crave my license for the eating of flesh for the recovering of her health . I therefore Thomas Ferrabie, vicar of Bishops Cannings do hereby license and authorize the said Sara Drewe for the recovery of her health to eat flesh during the time of her sickness. In witness whereof we have hereto put our hands, 8 Mar 1633; Richard Humphrey, minister, Thomas Ruddle, churchwarden.

General register, 1677-1770 (594/3)

I William Rose wheelwright, Devizes Green, clerk of the parish. Probably c1740.

Accounts for churching women [*a service following childbirth*] 13 Jan - 7 Jul 1751; 15 unnamed women each paying 6d.

General register, 1798-1812 (594/8)

The following list is this sixth day of May in the year of our lord 1798 inserted in this book (pursuant to the direction of the inhabitants of this chapelry assembled at a vestry held 6 May 1798) as a lasting monument of the zeal and loyalty of those who stood forward in the defence of their king and country at this very important and critical juncture.

A list of the several inhabitants of the parish of Bishops Cannings who have

voluntarily contributed in aid of the exertions of government to resist the attempts of France who now openly and insolently threaten to invade us for the avowed purpose of overturning the religion, the laws and the established constitution of this country:

James Sutton esq, New Park £21; Josiah Eyles Heathcote esq, Southbroom house, £10; Revd J Bond curate £1 1s; Mrs Hazlewood, Wick £2 10s; Mrs Goodman, Wick £2 10s; Mr Coward, Roundway £4 4s; Mr R Waylen chapel warden £2 2s; Mr Smith, Nurstead £1 1s; Mr Fitchew, Roundway £2 2s; Mrs Alexander £1 1s; Mr Thomas Chivers, Nurstead £1 1s; Mr John Bowden 10s 6d; Mr Hooper, Rose Inn 10s 6d; Widow Fowles 2s 6d; Mrs Jane Boulter 2s 6d; Mr Edward Dyke 2s 6d; Mr John Ellen 10s 6d; Mr White £1 1s; Mr William White, Southbroom house £2 2s; Mr William Browne 2s 6d; Mr Thring 2s 6d; Mr Richard Browne 10s 6d; Mrs Davis 2s 6d; Mrs Hill 5s; Mrs Ruth 2s 6d; Mr Lackey 2s 6d; Mr Richard Dyke 2s 6d; Mr John Pearce 2s 6d; Mr John Hutchins 4s; Mr Durnford 2s 6d; - Pearce 2s 6d; Mr Wakeman 2s 6d; Mr William Laywell, Southbroom 3s 6d; Maria Sayer, Mary Fowles, Sarah King, all servants at Southbroom house each 2s 6d; Francis Robbins 2s 6d; Mr Browne, Horton £5 5s; Mr Skeates, Horton £2 2s; Mr Croomes senior, Bishops Cannings £2 2s; Mr Croomes junior, Bishops Cannings £1 1s; Mr Mark Sloper, Bishop Cannings £1 1s; Mr George Ruddall, Bishops Cannings £1 1s; Mr Atwal, Bourton £1 1s; Mr Giddings, Coate 10s 6d; Mrs Cox, Bishop s Cannings 10s 6d; Mr William Maslen 10s 6d; Mr Sloper 10s 6d; Mr Bowden 10s 6d; Mrs Smith 2s 6d; Robert Simms 2s; John Simms 1s; Mrs Sarah Giddings, Coate 10s 6d; Mr Watts, Coate 10s 6d; Mr Job Hiscock, Coate 5s; Mr Michael Sloper, Bishops Cannings 10s 6d. Total subscribed £75 14 6d. Which sum was paid into the bank of England 20 Mar 1798 as appears by the receipt now deposited in the parish church of Bishops Cannings.

Copy of the receipt no 1557 Voluntary Contributions for the Defence of the Country. Copy authenticated by J[ohn] Bond MA curate, R Waylen, chapel warden.

SOUTH MARSTON

The registers remain in the parish church, but a microfiche copy is available at WSHC.

General register, 1539-1663 (3847/1)

We whose names are underwritten do hereby certify that we have made choice of Mr William Lorde, our minister, to be our register of South Marston; Thomas Goddard, James Goddard, John Bennett, Richard Turner, John Briant, Henry Mundie, Henry Banckes. *No date 1653 or 1654.*

Mr William Lorde sworn as parish register before Robert Hippiisley; *no date, probably 1653.*

John Mondie sworn as parish register in stead of Mr William Lorde before Robert Hippiisley; *He signed as register 3 Mar 1654. Probably the schoolmaster who was buried 15 Jun 1665.*

Mrs Margaret Brinde widow 12 July 1656. She gave 10s to the poor.

'This book was mended by Richard Turner the 10th Aprill 1668 and there

is one leefe laid in that was very short cut that would hardly bee sewd in his place without the laying of the year of the Lord 1567, which is dated according to the margent note by mee RT: *Turner signed the bishops transcript for 1667 as churchwarden.*

General register, 1662-1721

Title page 1662 by me Henry Dudley, curate.

General register, 1721-1812

Title page H Haggard, curate.

SOUTH NEWTON

General register, 1745-1812 (2077/3)

Fisherton; 29 Oct 1791; the following entries are made from memorandums delivered by the clerk to Henry Harvey, who did not enter the curacy until 29 Sep 1791. *The gap is between 1788 and 1791.*

SOUTH WRAXALL

General register, 1774-1797 (1280/2)

John Bowyer parish clerk on title page.

Thomas Collett was chosen parish clerk 26 May 1793.

STANTON FITZWARREN

General register, 1542-1766 (1999/1)

Roger Savage, chosen by parishioners who are chargeable to the relief of the poor, to have the keeping of the register books of the parish of Stanton touching Marriages, Births and Burials, approved by Robert Hippisley. *No date but written between the baptismal entries for Feb and May 1654.*

John Spier buried 4 Feb 1601: This said John Spier of Stanton, weaver, did, by his last will and testament, give and bequeath to the poor inhabitants of Stanton 40s to remain in stock for the use for the use of the poor for ever. The stock money to remain in the hands of the churchwardens for the time being, giving sufficient bond to the parson to pay the interest of the stock upon St Thomas day [21 Dec] yearly every year to the poor for ever. *Will P3/1Reg/46A.*

Item John Harris, who deceased in the year 1591 [*buried 1 Sep 1591 in Stanton Fitzwarren*], did in his lifetime give and bequeath 3s to be distributed yearly at the feast of Easter to be distributed to the poor people of Stanton, during the lease of the term and time, of a meadow ground lying and being in the precincts of Purton. *Will not traced.*

Robert Ringe, buried in Stanton 9 May 1611, did give and bequeath by his last will and testament one stock of £6 to remain to the relief and use of the poor of the parish for ever to be let to interest by the churchwardens for their

best advantage for the time being. *Will not traced.*

General register, 1762-1812 (1999/2)

10 Nov 1767 Revd John Hippisley MA was inducted into the real, actual and corporal possession of the parish church of Stanton Fitzwarren with all and singular the rites, members and appurtenances thereunto belonging by John Lysen, vicar of Hannington.

STANTON ST BERNARD

General register, 1568-1812 (495/1)

An old piece of a torn register was found in the vicarage house which was imperfect and written in false orthography that few could make sense of it, but such as it was a young scholar scribbled it forth to be seen from 1568 til the year Richard Stevens [*vicar*] came, which was 8 May 1604.

1587 John Burden his testimonial written May 14. *Possibly the old clerk buried 19 May 1614*

Richard Stevens was inducted into the church of Stanton as vicar by Mr George Hunt minister of Collingbourne Ducis his loving uncle and Mr [John] Jessop, rector of Manningford Bruce 8 May 1604.

Thomas Crapon was inducted into the church as vicar in 1665.

John Shorthose was inducted into the church as vicar by Mr Coningsby, rector of Woodborough 22 Jun 1687 and into the prebend by Thomas Giffard, rector of Rushall and William Malcher, rector of Manningford Abbots [*in the presence of*] Hill Pinkney gent [1712].

Charles Barnes was inducted into the prebend by John Shorthouse, vicar 22 Jul 1688.

James Wall MA was inducted [into the vicarage] by Thomas Giffard, rector of Rushall, 3 Mar 1722: He died 17 Jan 1728.

Thomas Smith, clerk and fellow of New College [Oxford] was inducted into the church of Stanton as vicar by Thomas Twinning, vicar of Wilsford and Charlton 14 Mar 1729, in the presence of Richard Smith senior, Richard Smith junior, Hugh Lavington, William Weaver alias Helps.

A communion salver: to be delivered to the minister of Stanton for the use of his parish with this charge: That so soon as he meets with anyone whose business it is to know how he came by it, he should be sure to tell him. This was sent to John Shorthose with the salver. *Note pasted into the register; Shorthose was vicar 1687-1721.*

Memo that John Rosier's lambs were tithed by William Rivers of All Cannings, 25 Apr 1722 in the presence of John Duck and Richard Powel junior, shepherds.

Memo the tithe of Lionel Waller's lambs was taken at Markstide [25 Apr] in 1722 & 1723 by Richard Smith senior, and the tithe of John Bucklands were taken at Markstide in 1723 by William Riddle of Caught [Conock] for Richard Smith junior and 1730 by William Rivers at Markstide for Richard

Smith junior aforesaid.

Memo Tues 5 Jun John Rosier paid 1s 6d for the < ...>Godwin: And acknowledged before Richard Smith senior and Hugh and Lettis Lavington. *Notes written between entries for May and Aug 1733.*

Notes by Thomas Smith, vicar, 1729-1760.

5 May 1729 began taking the vicarage house [down]; there being a skilling adjoined at the east end 10½ ft wide and 16½ ft long, a drain or gutter from the wall and footway pitch without [*ie outside*] that.

19 May began taking down the brewhouse; there was a skilling adjoining to it at the east side 10ft 8in wide and 28 ft long; one half used for wash tubs tother a stable. The dwelling house building began 29 Jun [*day stated in a separate note in the register*]. The foundation was laid 2ft within the old foundation on the east.

Memo the ash logs were cut out of the hedge between the Upper Ferns and the Lower Ferns 27, 28 & 29 Jan 1737.

A great and terrible hurricane on Wed 8 Jan 1735.

A severe frost began on Christmas Eve and continued 10 weeks with a great snow which melted away gently without rain and was attended with drying cold winds to 10 Apr 1739.

A new scarlet pulpit cloth and cushion sent by a person unknown to the minister's house, 29 Oct 1746.

A bason for the font was given by a person unknown 15 Sep 1748.

An account of the Souls within this parish taken 25th March 1744

	Above 16	Under 16
At William Powels	2	1
Richard Powel sen	3	0
John Maslen	4	2
Jeffrey Davis	1	0
John Mills	3	0
Robert Smith	1	0
John Godwin	4	0
William Higgons	3	5
William Alexander	3	5
Lionel Walter	6	0
Samuel Hamlen	1	0
Richard Springbat jun	2	2
William Helps alias Weaver	1	0
Stephen Peirce	2	6
Widow Walter	1	0
Widow Larkum	2	0
John Buckland	2	6
William Green sen	2	0
John Berrot	2	7
Richard Springbat sen	3	1

Thomas Durnford	3	6
William Pritty	3	1
Nathaniel Alexander	1	0
George Naish	2	5
Amy & Molly Taylor	2	2
Richard Powel jun	4	5
William Maslen	2	2
William Hamlen	4	2
John Hiscock	4	0
Daniel Smith	3	0
Robert Batt	2	2
John Hobbs	3	1
John Roser	2	0
Mary Tasker	1	0
John Tasker sen	3	1
John Tasker jun	2	2
Mr Church	4	0
John Naish	2	0
Thomas Butcher	2	0
William Swaddon	2	4
Sarah Maslen	1	2
Mary Cromwell & Ralph Etal	2	0
Thomas Cromwell	2	0
William Green jun	2	2
Catherine Perry	2	2
Thomas Rabbets	2	5
William Pope	2	1
John Rabbets	1	0
John Duck	4	0
John Pope	2	1
William Meggs	2	3
Thomas Gilbert	2	4
Nathaniel Reeks & Sister Laws	4	1
Richard Dows	3	4
William Russ	2	4
Nathaniel Reeks sen & Richard Reeks	2	0
John Barnot	3	4
. . . Lavington	6	1
The Vicaridge	3	0
Total	46	95

Robert Pile & John ?Hamlen. *Probably churchwardens.*

Revd Henry Hawes clerk MA was inducted or put into possession of this church as prebend of the same 27 May 1748 by me Thomas Smith vicar.

George Naish declared clerk of this parish after reading the canon as ordered, 13 Mar 1757, by me Thomas Smith vicar. William Helps alias Weaver buried 13 Feb 1757, having been clerk Above 60 years.

1760 A book with Offices bought. *Probably the Book of Common Prayer.*

STANTON ST QUINTIN

General register, 1679-1812 (1621/1)

'Sir, I have a Daughter as have a child ded and I wish to have it Beuried as near as possible [to] my Wife as I understand thare is room between our Bering groun & Others as thare have been a Child of the Family Beried thare. we wish you to dig a grave as near to it as possible. we intend Bringing the Child to Stanton to Morrow by twelve o clock the Childs Age is about A twelve month Oald. By so you Will Ablidge. Wm Beak To the Clarke of the Parish of Stanton.' *Pasted into the register facing the last page of burials. The unnamed wife of William Beach of Castle Combe was buried 24 Jun 1801.*

STAPLEFORD

General register, 1633-1752 (2089/1)

Seisin or possession of the real and actual church of the parish of Stapleford was handed to George Conway on 12 Nov 1711 by me Thomas Shaw, rector of Great Wishford. *In Latin.*

'William Fourd His hand and peen God Give Him To Look Amen 1721.' *Possibly the parish clerk.*

By virtue of a certain mandate procured and had of Dr Thomas Lambert, archdeacon of Wilts, John Acton, clerk MA, had on Friday 9 May 1684 the real and actual possession of the church of Stapleford given unto him by me John Wilson, vicar of Berwick St James in the presence of William Baker.

General register, 1679-1767 (2089/2)

Memo I accounted with Uriah Piercy for his Easter dues in 1712 and he paid me 4d for cow white, which he said was what he always used to pay, though others in the parish pay only 1d and say that 1d is due for cow white and no more. George Conway vicar.

Isaiah Brown and Miles Northover paid 4d for cow white in the same year. *Cow white was the tithe due on dairy produce.*

STAVERTON

General register, 1673-1812 (1253/1)

28 Dec 1689 Richard Larenes and Robert Whit, being supervisors have gave up their account and come to £4 2s 4d. Robert Purnell and Elizabeth Bendel chosen supervisors for the year ensuing. *Probably overseers of the poor rather than way wardens who were also known as supervisors of the highways.*

29 Dec 1691 Robert Purnell and Elizabeth Bendel being supervisors and chosen laid out 1s. John Mansell and Thomas to stand next.

14 Apr 1692 We the rector and inhabitants of the tithing of Staverton have

nominated and elected John Neves and Thomas Bayley to be chapel wardens for the year ensuing; witness our hands Robert Keylway, Richard Lawr[ence] (X), William Wai[te].

12 Jan 1693 John Neves gave up his accounts to the parish and is out of pocket 5s 2d for the year 1692.

12 Apr 1694 We the inhabitants of the parish of Staverton have chosen John Grant of Weecke Maish to be chapel warden with Thomas Baily; witness our hands Thomas Barnard, Robert Whit, William Waite, Richard Lawrin...

6 Apr 1697 We the inhabitants of the tithing of Staverton have chosen and elected Thomas Barnard to be chapel warden; witness our hands Thomas Bayly, Richard Lawrince, John Neeves, John Grant.

STEEPLE ASHTON

General register, 1538-1632 (730/1) *Original paper register.*

'1605 After the decease of Mr [John] Rogers vicar [buried 27 Mar 1605] succeeded Mr Robert Wilson, who enjoyed the place not long, but coming into it Mar 29 died May 8. After whome succeeded Georg Webbe, who was inducted into the church & vicaradg May 14 Anno Domini 1605'

General register, 1653-1691 (730/5)

1691 William Mattock bought of Robert Fries of West Ashton a man's seat which was formerly 'on Wealls [*ie one Weall's*], being the second seat in the front seat in the middle aisle on the south side.

STEEPLE LANGFORD

General register, 1674-1736 (502/1)

'May 19th 1704 Memorandum that on a certain night last summer in the year 1703, July the 31st about ten or eleven of the clock at night, there was a dreadfull thunder storm, which by the lightning did mischief in more places than one; but for one I myself was an eye witness of it, which was att Staplford; the story of which is as follows: Tis supposed that the lightning came down the chimney of a certain widow's house, whose name is Lucy Randol: But the coming of it how it will, the effects of it are thus. The stones of this chimney were very large quarry stones; the under ones of these were thrown out several ways. At 4 or 5 yards distance from the house, one of which was thrown into the womans garden near the house, about a yard or more within the garden. But I cannot properly say that it was thrown, for it seemed to be laid down with as great, or greater care, than hands coud have employd about it. For tho' it was a large stone, as much as any man can well lift from the ground, yet it made no more impression upon a soft bed in the garden than it would make by its own weight; tho' it laid upon a young goosberry tree, it did not so much as grate of the rind from it, though (as I take it) the house is 3 storey- high. Next it drove the glass out of almost every window in the house, & did not break, but untwist the leads of the rest. It broke a large looking glass (one bigger than would go whole out of either of the casements in the room), & carried part of it out of the window in which it

stood, & another out of another little square window in another side of the chamber, and, as the woman told mee, laid upon a hay mow in the backside adjoining. It forced many stones, & much plaistering from the wall of the same chamber (which was that in which the woman then laid), & cast the last of these against a press in the opposite part of the chamber with great violence. It burst open the door of the same chamber, & threw the key between the bed and the matting wheron it layd. It forced its way into the next chamber (opening, as I remember, the latch of the door) where her children were in bed, but did no harm there, besides that it untwisted the leads etc. In the kitchen it threw down all the pewter from the shelves etc, & forced an entire brickbat out of the wall of the chimney into the midst of the room: & sing'd a hive or bonnet of one of the children, which hung on a pin, and threw it on the floor. It forced its way throw an inner door near the outward one, making only a black spot towards the bottom, but splintered off some of the outward door making a passage quite thro'. It also melted some part of the bolt of the lock, about the breadth of the nail of ones little finger. It also burnt, & blackened, some of the thatch of the house near the chimney, & left signs of burning in two or three of the inner beams of the house. The woman was a bed at the same time, & dreamt nothing of all this, but being terrified with the noise of the thunder, kept her head under the bedcloths. But looking out some small time after this (she said) she saw a coal of fire as it were thoroughly burnt, lying in the midst of her chamber. This gave her the first alarm, upon which she arose etc. But I forgot to set down one thing more; which is; that the moulding or crown (or whatever you'l call it) of the chimney, upon the removal of the under stones, dropped down in place, & was not so much thrown from the house, but laid upon the chimney almost in its primitive form. Arthur Collier? *A brickbat was less than half a brick.*

Memorandum that on 27 Nov 1703 was one of the greatest tempests that history speaks of, which lasted from 10 of the clock at night to 4 or 5 in the morning; the particular effects of which storm will (I suppose) be never forgotten.

Memorandum that Mr Edward Hardwick, [canon] residentiary of the church of Sarum, resigned the rectory of Steeple Langford 23 Oct 1704.

General register, 1737-1802 (502/2)

Benefactions to the poor of the parish:

Dame Elizabeth Mervin left in the year 1581, by will; chargeable on Great Bathampton farm, to be distributed annually on Good Friday: wheat baked into bread, two quarters; canvas, 12½ ells at 12d an ell; cloth, 12½ yards at 20d the yard.

Mrs Susan Mompesson, 20 Feb 17 Eliz I [1575] by deed, for ever £1 2s 8d, to be distributed annually on the Wed in the first week in clear Lent. This is chargeable on Little Bathampton farm.

Chargeable on Steeple Langford farm the sum of £1 6s 8d to be paid annually on the Feast of St Michael [29 Sep] for the benefit of the poor. Neither the time when it was given, or the donor are known.

The above is a copy of what was given on oath to me on 19th Sep 1786 in conformity to an Act of Parliament for that purpose. Samuel Weller, rector. *Act Returns Relative to the Poor 26 Geo III c 56.*

20 May 1782 John Dean was then appointed clerk of the parish of Steeple Langford Samuel Weller rector, in the room of his father deceased by me Samuel Weller rector.

Francis Dean late clerk buried 19 May 1782.

20 Mar 1786 William Munday was then appointed clerk of this parish by me Samuel Weller, in place of John Dew who resigned.

General register, 1803-1812 (502/5)

26 Sep 1810 the large pew at the west end of the north aisle, near the stairs of the gallery, was an open pew belonging to the parish, but was this year permitted by me and the churchwardens to be enclosed for a temporary accommodation reversible to the use of the parishioners when required. Robert Trotman Coates, rector.

STERT

General register, 1579-1618 (645/11)

[1605] 28 Jun Mr Stockton preached at Stert.

28 Oct Richard Griffiths of Tetbury, diocese of Gloucester, preached at Stert, licensed by the late bishop of Canterbury.

1606 25 Dec preached Richard Lewis of Highworth . . .

. . . Mr Sand . . . licensed by the late bishop of Canterbury . . .

1607 5 Jul preached Thomas Ringe MA

1609 26 Mar preached at Stert Mr Glasborough, brought thither by Mr Whelpy, vicar of Urchfont.

8 Oct Mr Tise of Row[de] preached . . . and 3 Jan 1610. *John Tise, vicar of Rowde; see the notes for that parish.*

1610 14 Apr Thomas Coles of Shrewton preached at Stert, licensed by the bishop of Sarum.

. . . Mr Dr Ryes of Oxford preached at Stert.

1610 . . . Richard Thomson of Baderden (?*Bagendon*), diocese of Gloucester preached . . .

. . . Mr Tise . . . Sunday . . . Mar ?1611

This list of preachers written on the cover of the register is extremely faint and rubbed. The reference to the late bishop of Canterbury is probably to John Whitgift, archbishop of Canterbury, who died in 1604.

General register, 1619-1672 (645/12)

'Memo the xth daye of this presant March 1635 Mr John Top of Stert being sicke disseassed in his bodye was lycenced to eate flesh at all time of his Sicknesse by me Peter Glasbrooke pastor of Stert undr my hand upon the condition in the statute expressed & hee is to paye for these lycens vjs viijd to the pastor of Stert aforesaid at or within one month of the feast of the

purification of blessed Marye the virgin next coming [2 Feb] March the xvij 1635 per me Peter Glasbrooke, vic' ibid [*vicar there*], Robert Ruddle (X) churchwarden' *New style 1636*.

STOCKTON

General register, 1589-1712 (203/1)

About 1602 Revd Thomas Crockford BA, born 1580, taught in this parish and lived with the rector, Mr Terrie 6 out of the 14 years he was schoolmaster. In 1613 he was inducted into the vicarage of Fisherton Delamere – see the old register of that parish – in which he has given in Latin a very circumstantial account of himself in 1613; nb it now appears by an entry on the other leaf that this register was in his hand still 2 or 3 years after Mr Terrie's death, whose character and some others beside he has given at large in the register. *Crockford's obituaries of parishioners in the registers of Fisherton Delamere and also Wylde will be the subject of a forthcoming volume of the WRS. A drawing of his tomb in Fisherton Delamere church sketched by RF St Barbe rector of Stockton in 1826 is in this register.*

List of rectors: John Terrie MA instituted 1590, died 10 Mar 1625, buried in the churchyard by his desire; succeeded by Christopher Green DD, c1643; Samuel Wright BD, buried Jul 1663; Samuel Tayler buried 22 May 1703; John Tayler, buried 5 Jan 1730 (probably the son of Samuel); David Price, buried Nov 1771; Revd [Thomas] Froom, rector about 3 months [in 1771]; Edward Ennis died Nov 1788; never resided; Mr Ennis not residing the buildings went to ruin and the registers sadly neglected; Henry Good BA [instituted] Jan 1789, came to residence Jun 1795.

General register, 1785-1812 (203/3) *See also p 295.*

Henry Good BA, born at Wimbourne Minster Dorset 19 Jun 1764, was presented to this rectory 7 Jan 1789 by Rt Revd Brownlow North, bishop of Winchester, instituted 8 Jan by Rt Revd Shute Barrington bishop of Salisbury, and inducted 31 Jan by Henry Williams curate.

The present rectorial house was begun building in Apr 1790; which was finished Apr 1792: The houses, offices, garden etc. cost towards £1500; the old house was in ruins; it stood where the present garden is; only £95 paid by Mrs Inness, widow of the late incumbent for dilapidations.

Jul 1791 the rector commenced AM? and 11 Jun 1795 married and came to residence.

This entry was made Jul 1795 by Henry Good DD, father of the rector, senior minister of the collegiate church of Wimborne Minister, and rector of Iwerne Courtenay and Shaftesbury St Rumbold Dorset.

He was 71 when he wrote this and in good health and spirits. *In another hand, probably Henry Good junior.*

STOURTON

General register, 1570-1690 (497/1)

Edward Densham was nominated parish clerk by John King, parson, according to the canons, 15 Mar 1612. Francis Bacon was nominated parish clerk by John King, parson, according to the canons, 19 Apr 1613. Robert Brittain was nominated parish clerk by John King, parson according to the canons, 11 Jun 1615. William ?Henry was nominated parish clerk by John King, parson, 6 Oct 1671. John Braden. Thomas Styles nominated parish clerk by John Drew . . . Thomas Stone nominated parish clerk by John Drew . . . William Evill nominated parish clerk by John Drew rector 29 Mar 1691. *Drew was rector from 1671.*

General register, 1691-1754 (497/2)

Confirmed in the parish church of Stourton by the right revd father in God Gilbert lord bishop of Sarum these persons whose names are underwritten 5 May 1703:

Thomas Presley; John Bradden senior S[tourton]; John Bradden junior S[tourton]; John Bradden senior G[asper]; John Bradden junior Gasper]; Ann Bradden; Robert Adams; William Evill; Ruth Hill; John Hill; Mary Targett; Mellior Jenkins; Grace Edwards; Margery Joupe; Paul Sandell; Mary Sandall; Joan Sheppard; Basil Sheppard; Edward Ryall; Mary Ryall; William Maidment; Robert Maidment; John Maidment; Mary Maidment; Elizabeth Evill senior; Elizabeth Evill junior; Mary Evill; Katherine Evill; Basil Cuff; Cicely Hart; John Duffitt; Robert Feltham; William Barnett; Edward Barnett; John Holly; William Joupe; Mary Jupe; Henry Edwards; Robert Atkins; Susan Atkins; Elizabeth Atkins; Jane Atkins; . . . Owen; . . . Brimson; Robert Tabor; Charles Evill; John Green; James Stone; James Davis; Ann Brimson; Alice Edwards; Mary Joupe; Nicholas Edwards; Charity Sparrow; John Sparrow; George Edwards; William Francis; Mary Edwards; Ann Fripp; Mary Owen; Margaret Tabor; Sarah Gartery; Giles Joupe; Eleanor Joupe; John Smart junior; John Evill; Joan Evill; Jane Childs; William Childs; Charles Feltham; Elizabeth Gilbert; William Green; Mary Joupe; John Gregory; Robert Owen; Eleanor Edwards; Joan Tabor; Margaret Holly; Richard Moore; Edward Edwards; Elizabeth Moore; Ruth Meaden; Sarah Meaden; Richard Feltham; John Feltham; Robert Davis; Rebecca Davis; Mary Sparrow; Ann Maidment; Alexander Green; William Green; Isaac Starr; Davy Barnes; Susan Cutbard; Francis Joupe; Samuel Lamb; John Joupe; William Jones; William Cuffe; Grace Batter; Abigail Barler; Martha Barler; Mary Childs; John Owen; Robert Godwin; Elizabeth Smith; Robert Tabor; William Joupe; Mary Joupe; John Suter; Mary White; Hugh Heyter; Mathew White; James Meaden; Elizabeth Moore; Joan Moore; Mary Meaden; Rachel Atkins; Rachel Wild; Thomas Farthing; John Davidge; Ann Davidge; Ruth Sweatman; Catherine Evill; Thomas Tabor; James Sparrow. 128.

Confirmed in the parish church of Stourton 3 Jul 1711 by the right revd father in God Gilbert bishop of Sarum the persons whose names are underwritten: John Michel; Isset Michell senior; Jane Michell; Judith Jones; George Green; John Evill; George Edwards; Eleanor Edwards; Mary Edwards; William Brimson; Anne George; Thomas Green; Cecilia Green; Elizabeth Barnes; Mary Smart; John Barnett; Margaret Shepard; John Edwards; Jane Edwards; Robert

Childs; Anne Hill; Miriam Feltham; William Feltham; Anne Baker; John Lamb; Catherine Lamb; Joan Swetman; John Butcher; John Long; Richard Atkins; Michael Sparrow; William Jupe; William Hill; Richard Hill; Catherine Edwards; John Edwards; Thomas Rugely; Elizabeth Rugely; Margaret Gover; Grace But; Rachel But; Thomas Sandal; Timothy Sandal; Jonathan Mullens; Mary Mead; Mary Leaver; James Sandal; William Frith; William Moor; Edward Baker; Joan Owen; Anne Owen; Stephen Owen; Martha Owen; Samuel Target; Jael Jupe; Dulcina Trimby; John Jenkins; Mary Rial; Anne Brewer; Thomas Farthing; Thomas Gediz. 62.

General register, 1754-1812 (497/3)

Thomas Tabor, 73, parish clerk buried 15 Mar 1774.

Thomas Tabor, publically in the church, appointed parish clerk Sunday 5 May 1774 by Montague Barton rector.

Alpha numeric code by William Partridge minister, 1809.

The following list of persons of this parish who were confirmed in the parish church of Warminster by the right revd father in God Shute lord bishop of Salisbury 2 Aug 1783:

Edward Edwards; Elizabeth Edwards; Mary Hilliar; Sarah Hilliar; John Hilliar; John Charlton; James Coward; Mary Coward; Susanna Bracher; Robert Coward; Job Aldridge; Mary Evile; Charlotte Edwards; Ann Bradden; Elizabeth Lapham; Elizabeth Combes; Ann Edwards; Martha Edwards; Sarah Edwards; Teresa Edwards; Mary Bishop; Rachel Smith; Mary Bracher; Mary Herridge; Thomas Wadlow; Richard Wadlow; James Moore; John Turner; William Evile junior; Mary Topp; John Windsor; Betty Miles; Charlotte Bracher; James Feltham; Stephen Maidment; Charles Smith; Marina Miles; Betty Arnold; John Norris; Ann Edwards; Mary Edwards; Elizabeth Markey; Martha Knight; Thomas Bracher; Sarah Lane; Joseph Lapham; James Lapham; James Topp; Thomas Braddon; Mary Wills; Phaniah Lapham; William Arnold; John Toogood. 52. Montague Barton rector.

STRATFORD SUB CASTLE

General register, 1654-1687 (1076/1)

Anthony Forde was sworn as parish register before Richard Hill, 27 Mar 1654.

General register, 1689-1790 (1076/2)

Thomas Furnell paid 7s 9d 5 Apr 1790, 4s 19 Mar 1791. *Probably the taxes due on births, marriages and burials under the 1783 Act.*

STRATFORD TONY

General register, 1562-1681 (576/1)

Memo 5 Aug 1599 John Persons of Stratford Tony laid down, in the presence of Thomas Paynter, parson there the two sums of money viz 7s 6d and 20s which sums of money were given unto two of the children of Piers Clement,

Ann and Margaret Clement, out of the £20 which Peter Mathewe gave to the poor of Stratford. And these two sums John Parsons paid unto William Milles the elder and Harry Clements, both of Stratford Tony and administrators of the goods of Piers Clement. In witness whereof the said William Miles and Henry Clements have put their marks the day and year above written.

Memo 28 Dec 1604 William Milles the elder of Stratford Tony did confess and acknowledge before Thomas Paynter, parson there, and divers others of the parish in the church that he had received of John Spering the older of Stratford Tony the sum of 7s 6d, which sum was given unto two of the children of Piers Clement, Ann and Margaret Clement, out of the £20 which Peter Mathewe gave to the poor of Stratford. In witness whereof the said William Milles did set his mark the day and year above written.

Memo that on St Stephen's day 1602 (26 Dec) Sir Walter Vaughan delivered unto John Parsons of Stratford Tony the sum of 20s given by old Mr Vaughan of Faulston (in Bishopstone, South Wilts) to be employed to the use of the poor which sum John Parsons delivered into the hands, then demanded of John Parsons, of William Quicke the older, Harry Luxwell and John Brasier. The which said parties for the year from St Stephen's day 1602 - St Stephen's day 1603, delivered 2s for the use thereof unto these here: unto John Welstede 6d; unto Dorothy Eliett 6d; unto Thomas Gilbert 6d; unto - Card 2d; unto Margery Whitmarsh 2d; unto Dorothy Orams 2d.

Delivered from St Stephen's day 1603 unto the year 1604 unto those by the said above named parties: unto Dorothy Ellett and her daughter 12d; unto Thomas Gilbert 4d; unto John Welstede 4d; unto Dorothy Orams 4d.

<Memo that 25 Dec 1611 on Christmas day William Milles the elder delivered up 8s of old Mr Vaughan's money into the hands of John Spering the elder, being then churchwarden there and withal the said William Milles delivered into the hands of John Parson 6s for the use of thereof for the former year past. By me Thomas Paynter parson there.>

<Memo that 12 Apr 1618 John Brasher delivered 5s of Mr Vahan's money in the hands of John Spering the younger before Laurence Mechell churchwarden. By me John Spering the younger received of the same money, 29 Mar 1618 2s.>

Paid to the parish by John Speering 10s; by William Mils 5s; by David Parsons 5s; 2 Apr 1632.

Copy of glebe terrier 1671 [*see WRS vol 56 p 411-412*]. With note that there is no way through Culver close nor any common highway through the backside of the parsonage 18 May 1673. Edward Ward rector, William Fawconer, Richard Mills.

General register, 1682-1777 (576/2)

A memorandum for all those that succeed me, William Fawconer:

In May in the year of our Lord 1702 the parish and churchwardens raised a dispute whether the arch at the east end of the church did not belong to the rectory; if not all, yet half of it they would have put upon me because it was covered with two water-tables. But after the workmen had viewed it and satisfied them that no chancel had any end there nor went any further

than the rafters and no church but ended with an arch there and this arch was but one. Therefore I say, memorandum est, that the chancel goes no further than the rafters and that four tiles' breadth more or less beyond the rafters belongs unto the church and that when they took down the top of the arch which was a great deal higher than the chancel they made it almost equal with the chancel and instead of a double water-table they raised up but one and where the other went up, laid tiles over equal with the chancel to the breadth of four or more or less sometimes. Witness my hand William Fawconer 24 May 1702. At the north side it ends at the great buttress and the spout which almost touches the rafters, and at the south side it ends at the rafters and wall-plate.

2 Mar 1760 Dorothea Hill wife of Rowland Hill of Salisbury was buried; memo at the funeral of Mrs Dorothea Hill for the sake of bringing the corpse as near as may be to the church, it being deposited in a leaden coffin I gave permission to drive the coach and hearse through my backside. J[ohn] Reeks. 28 Mar 1767 Rowland Hill gent of Salisbury was buried; memo I gave leave (unasked) to the undertaker to carry the corpse of Mr Rowland Hill through the backside for the sake of coming as near to the church as possible and because the road through the parish was not good. J Reeks rector. *The memo in the previous register after the glebe terrier has bearing on these entries, as the rector sought to establish a permissive right of access only.*

Extracts from the old registers relating to the rectors of the parish: Douglas Castillion died 15 Jan, buried 24 Jan 1660. Richard Hyde rector in 1661. Francis Kettleby was rector 1666. Edward Ward was rector in 1667. William Faulconer was buried 4 Feb 1718. John Bampton MA, canon residentiary of Salisbury cathedral died 2 Jun 1751; he was the founder of the celebrated Bampton Lecture in the University of Oxford. John Reeks BD fellow of Corpus Christi Cambridge inducted 9 Nov 1751, buried 30 Jul 1770. Charles Reeks buried 30 Jul 1783; Thomas Brown died Sep 1787. Thomas Stockwell buried 15 Jul 1825 aged 81. *List continues to 1877.*

General register, 1780-1812 (576/4)

1790 For the convenience of bringing the corpse to church (being deposited in a leaden coffin) I gave permission to the undertaker to have the horse and coaches drawn through the parsonage yard. [Thomas Stockwell]. *Refers to the burial of Mrs Margaret Dench of the family of Hill, wife of Henry Dench of Cowesfield, [Whiteparish], 3 Nov 1790.*

STRATTON ST MARGARET

General register, 1608-1653 (819/1)

'Mr William Joanes vicar of Hannington died the eleventh daie of March 1615[*New Style 1616*] and was buried the ninetenth of the same moneth 1615 on which daie being tewesday. Mr Foulter preached and buried the dead'. *William Fowler was vicar of Stratton St Margaret until 1625.*

On 18 Nov 1634 the vicarage of Stratton St Margaret was void upon the

relinquishing of Mr Walter Attwood from which day the dues appertaining to the vicarage did belong to Mr Christopher Jole, who was inducted vicar on the first day of February in the same year [*New Style 1665*].

8 Feb 1635 memo that on the day above written being Sunday Christopher Jole, vicar of Stratton St Margaret, did read in the parish church thereof at the usual time of morning prayer the book of articles of religion agreed upon by the whole clergy of England in the convocation holden at London in the year 1562: We say, that the vicar aforesaid did in the face of the congregation, read these articles at the time aforesaid in witness whereof we here following have subscribed our names; Francis Kemble (X); John Carfax, Thomas Lea (X), churchwardens; John Butler, John Jorden, William Morrey, Thomas Lamburne (X), Reynold Herring (X), Richard Panting (X), John Grundy, John Hering, Edmund Wickes, Thomas Kemble, Francis Kemble.

General register, 1653-1700 (819/2)

Edmund Weekes was sworn as parish register before Robert Hippisley. *No date but before Sep 1653.*

This book (with two old register books) was delivered by Edmund Wicks to the custody of Christopher Jole, vicar, 31 Jul 1661.

Godfrey Jenkinson was instituted and inducted into the vicarage 11 Oct 1671.

Incomplete copy of a Quarter Sessions order about rogues, vagabonds and sturdy beggars, Easter 1678. *See index.*

15 Nov 1670: Here was collected towards the redemption of certain great numbers of our Englishmen the sum of 12s 1d given by those men whose names are underwritten following: Christopher Jole vicar 6d; Mr Thomas Kembell 1s 6d; Mr Francis Kembell 1s; Mr Thomas Read 8d; Mr Henry Read 4d; Nicholas Smith 4d; John Panting 4d; Thomas Skaggelthrope 2d; John Gilman 4d; John Buston 4d; Richard Sprate 2d; Henry Smart 4d; Henry Mundy 4d; Robert Butler 2d; Morris Foscue 2d; William Barrett 2d; Richard Reason 4d; Edmund Sargent 4d; Tobias Salt 2d; Jean Brind 2d; William Garrett 1d; William Hering 1d; John Brunsdon senior 2d; John Brunsdon junior 1d; Edward Brunsdon 1d; Widow Welhorn 2d; Joan Coxie 1d; William Buchar 1d; Nicholas William 2d; Widow Hering 2d; Richard Backer 2d; Roger Butler 1d; Robert Heath 2d; Henry Williams 2d; Thomas Gering 2d; Francis Kembell 2d; Richard Panting 2d; Mr William Bennett 6d; Robert Copland 4d; Richard Heath 2d; Thomas Jacksons 2d; William Titmarsh 1d; Edward Brunsdon 1d; Humphry Cooke 1d.

27 May 1672: Collected for a great fire in Coleharbour in the parish of Great Allhallows in London: Godfrey Jenkinson vicar 2s 6d; Mr Thomas Kemble 1s; Mr Francis Kemble 1s; Mr Thomas Reade 6d; Mrs Mary Reade 4d; Mr Henry Reade 6d; Richard Spratt 6d; John Lea 3d; Nicholas Smith 6d; Robert Butler 3d; Tobyah Salt 2d; John Panting 1d; Robert Panting 1d; Edward Champ 1d; Richard Baker 4d; John Gillman 6d; John Lewis 2d; Richard

Panting 2d; John Grundy 1d; Francis Kemble 1d; Henry Munday 3d; Thomas Scagglethroop alias Tucker 3d; Morrice Foscott 2d; Francis Panting 1d; Henry Williams 2d; John Curtice senior 1d; John Curtice junior 2d; William Barrett 6d; William Kemble 4d; Nicholas Williams 2d; Thomas Lea 6d; Edward Sargent 4d; Richard Reason 2d; Edward Brunsdon 2d; William Herring 1d; John Brunsdon 2d; Susanna Herring 2d; Henry Smart 6d; Roger Butler 4d; Robert Heath senior 4d; Robert Copland 4d; Richard Heath 3d; Robert Heath 2d; Thomas Bennett 2d; Thomas Jacksons 2d; John Gray 2d; Francis Jacksons 2d; William Cooke 1d; Humphry Cooke 1d; Thomas Sargent 1d; Edward Brunsdon 1d; William Titmarsh 1d. The sum is 16s 1d.

29 Dec 1672: Collected for a great fire in Fordingbridge in the county of Southampton in Stratton St Margaret: Mr Godfery Jenkinson vicar 1s Mr Thomas Kemble 1s; Mr Francis Kemble 1s; Mr Thomas Read 6d; Henry Smart 4d; Richard Spratt 3d; Robert Heath 2d; Toby Salt 2d; Francis Kemble 1d; John Panting 2d; Thomas Tucker 2d; Edward Brunsdon 1d; John Curtis junior 1d; John Curtice senior 2d; Richard Gillman 2d; John Lea 2d; Robert Copland 3d; Thomas Jacksons 2d; John Grundy ½ d; Nicholas Smith 3d; Henry Munday 3d; Richard Panting 1d; Henry Williams 2d; William Barrett 2d; Thomas Lea 4d; John Salt 4d; Robert Butler 2d; Morrice Foscott 2d; William Kemble 4d; Robert Panting 2d; Roger Butler 1d; Edward Champ 1d; Widow Sargent 1d; Richard Reasen 1d; Nicholas Williams 1d; William Panting 1d; Widow Herring 1d; William Herring 1d; Lawrence Herring 1d; John Brunsdon 1d; Richard Baker 4d; Henry Reade 4d; John Gray 2d; Richard Heath 2d; Thomas Bennett 2d; Thomas Sargent 1d; Francis Jacksons 1d. The sum 10s ½d.

23 Mar 1673: Collected for a great fire in the parish of St Martin in the Fields in the county of Middlesex near Russell Street: Mr Godfrey Jenkinson vicar 1s; Mr Francis Kemble 1s; Mr Henry Reade 2d; Thomas Lea 2d; Deborah Lea widow 2d; John Lea 2d; Henry Munday 1d; John Salt 1d; Edward Brunsdon 1d; John Curtice 1d; William Kemble 2d; Mr Thomas Reade 4d; William Barrett 2d; Thomas Tucker 2d; Henry Williams 2d; Mr Thomas Kemble 6d; Richard Spratt 2d; Edward Sargent 1d; Francis Kemble 1d; Susanna Herring widow; Henry Smart 1d; Robert Panting 2d; Nicholas Smith 2d; Richard Baker 1d; Widow Carter 1d; Robert Copland 2d; Richard Heath 2d; Thomas Jackson 2d; John Gray 1d; Thomas Bennett 1d. The sum 6s 2d.

The last four lists are among over 75 collections for briefs made in the parish between 1661 and 1680; these are the only ones with lists of contributors.

General register, 1700-1775 (819/3)

An account of the writings relating to the augmentation which was given by Sir William Hedges of London, knight, to the vicars of Stratton St Margaret and their widows after them for ever, which augmentation was purchased of Thomas Butler of Stratton aforesaid, for £200, and consists of 11½ acres of land, be it more or less, which was commonly known by the name of Harnil Laines, and is now rented by Thomas Jorden, whose father rented it before him, and before him one of the Pantings, and as tenants paid their

rent to the minister of the parish for the time being, no widow being left. The account is as follows:

No 1 a copy of a deed from William lord Sandys and others to Roger Butler dated 10 Jan 1650; nos. 2, 3 a lease and release from Thomas Butler to Sir William Hedges dated 29 & 30 Dec 1692; nos. 4, 5 & 6 a mortgage from Roger Butler to Aaron Jones dated 16 Apr 1690; an acquittance for the money and bond to perform covenant; no. 7 an assignment of Jones's mortgage to Mr Kent in trust for Sir William Hedges; nos. 8, 9 a lease and release from Sir William Hedges, dated 1 & 2 Aug 1693, to John Kent, William Kent and Richard Reade in trust for the vicar of Stratton St Margaret; no. 10 a bond from Thomas Butler to Sir William Hedges; no. 11 a release from John Poynder and his wife to Thomas Butler; no. 12 Mrs Jones's release; no. 13 Martha Butler's release; no. 14 Mary Butler's release. 26 Jun 1717 these writings were committed to the care of Mr Kent of Bishopstowen [*Bishopstone North Wilts*], being one of the trustees, by Mr William Hedges, one of the sons of Sir William Hedges deceased, who gave the augmentation.

Memo John Herring of Great Coxwell in Berkshire in the year 1725 charges his two meadows called Long Gores with the annual payment for ever of £3 to the minister, churchwardens and overseers to be applied as follows: £2 10s for the educating of six children subject to rules mentioned in the will which is in the church chest; 10s to be paid to 4 poor widows who attend the sacrament on Christmas day.

John Barrett of Marlborough, William Barrett of Stratton and others, in the year 1663, gave a messuage or tenement called the Church house and 2 acres 3½ roods, >now 1a 3r 32p< of land lying in West End, the produce of which the churchwardens may apply in repairing, in adorning the church, or in any other way in the service of the church they approve of.

These are the only benefactions to the parish I know of respecting the vicarage of Stratton St Margaret made by the Revd James Hare MA who was presented to the said living in the year 1787 by Shute [*Barrington*] lord bishop of Sarum. When I was inducted I made composition with the farmers at the rate of £80 a year [*for the tithes*], which was a considerable increase to what the living produced my predecessor, Revd Mr Wallinger Goodinge, in addition to the above sum the land given to the vicarage was augmented by Queen Anne's Bounty with £200, which was invested in land consisting of a meadow called Green Leas, about 2 acres, and 2 acres of land in the common field. In the year 1795, an Inclosure took place which has exceedingly improved the living, the vicar's allotment in land consisting of;

59 acres of meadow land in the mead, let to William Day for £100 per annum; land tax £3 7s 4d; net £96 12s 8d.

27 acres of arable land adjoining the above let to John Carpenter for £47 5s; land tax £1 14s 6d; net £45 10s 6d.

37 acres of arable land in the Ryal let to Theophilous Smith for £55 10s; land tax £2 10s 6d; net £52 19s 6d.

4¾ acres in the Clay adjoining the garden which with the 10½ acres of meadow ground called the Vicarage grounds are let to Darby Tilley for £30; land tax 11s 5d; net £29 8s 7d.

Besides the above there is a corn rent allotted by the commissioners for the vicar's right in the old inclosure amounting to £36 17s 10d, but from the expenses of collecting it, the land tax and many of these being due from very poor people which I did not take, I reckon it only £31 10s. NB this is paid always at Michaelmas, the rest half yearly. The cottage, cottage garden and other very little piece of garden ground (added to the living when Queen Anne's Bounty was invested) with the barn, all which adjoin the vicar's garden, I reckon to produce per annum £4 14s 6d.

The churchyard I let for £2 2s.

The surplice fees may annually be reckoned at £2 12s 6d. This I compute the exact income of the living £265 10s 3d.

I laid out £400 in repairing and under draining the vicarage house and planting the garden, but being very much cramped for room, the cottage, barn and kitchen garden adjoining the vicarage garden belonging to a farmer, it was proposed to me to exchange the meadow of two acres called Green Lees for the cottage, garden and barn and which exchange the commissioners for the enclosure had power to accomplish, and therefore that myself and successors might be more comfortably accommodated and not be at the mercy of the farmer to exact what rent he pleased for these premises (which no gentleman could live in the vicarage house comfortably) and that the farmer might not have the privilege of having a road at the upper end of the vicarage garden to pass at his pleasure, I agreed to the exchange and gave up the field called Green Lees to be put in possession of the premises abovementioned, the two acres of arable land stated to have been in the common field are included in the allotment in the Ryal let to Theophilous Smith.

Being on the eve of quitting Stratton to reside on another living in Gloucestershire given me by my noble friend and patron Shute now lord bishop of Durham, I have made out these memorandums under the idea of their being of use to my successor who I wish may enjoy the same uninterrupted good health as I have been blessed with here in the last three years. James Hare, Stratton 14 Nov 1797.

SUTTON BENGER

General register, 1653-1738 (1712/1)

Richard Messiter of Sutton Benger, husbandman, sworn as parish register before William Shute, 24 Oct 1653.

'Richard Mesiter his book
look Down upon me a Sinner
hear and see and say the
Beast for of Leass medling
Comes most Deast.'

Marriage register, 1754-1814 (1712/4)

Jun 1782: Number of inhabitants in Sutton Benger by accurate enumeration 326; Furnished to the service of the Militia 2; Number of houses in Sutton 73. Number of inhabitants in Little Somerford 172; number of houses in Little

Somerford 39.

The above enquiry was made in the above mentioned parishes, and a similar enquiry extended to some other neighbouring parishes, at a friend's request, by John Morgan, curate of Sutton Benger and Little Somerford.

SUTTON MANDEVILLE

General register, 1748-1812 (1426/3)

The yew tree planted in the churchyard, 17 Apr 1780.

SUTTON VENY

General register, 1653-1766 (554/2)

John Lucas of Sutton Veny, sworn as parish register before Edward Michell, 16 Dec 1653.

O Monstrum Horrendum! ?Vir sue male verum ... tersus. *Too little is legible to allow a meaningful translation.*

Omne male in villis dum Muchell dominatis. *All was bad in the parishes while Muchell was in charge; a reference to the role of the local Justice of the Peace, Edward Michell, in performing marriage ceremonies.*

< . . . Sic transit gloria mundi

Ring the bells backward> *Four lines have been expunged with ink and of them these two are just legible. The Latin phrase means: So the glory of the world passes. It had a Roman Catholic association as it is spoken at the coronation of a new pope. A sequence of chimes was rung in reverse to warn of danger.*

Leges ante omnia disce. *Learn the law before all things.*

SWALLOWCLIFFE

General register, 1737-1797 (868/1)

<1780 James Lane 130 faggots at 2s 6d per score 16s 3d; one tree 7s

William Lampard 130 faggots at 2s 6d per score 16s 3d

John Case 2 trees –

Joseph Burton 40 Bavvens at 2s a score 4s

Stevens Wilkins 40 faggots 5s

1781 James Lane 130 faggots at 2s 6d per score 16s 3d

Thomas Veltham 100 faggots 12s 6d

William Lampard 1 tree 5s

William Lampard 120 faggots at 2s 6d per score paid

12 lugs at 9d per lug Viling an Earnest not paid

32 Philip Wright at 8d per lug Vilan an Earnest not paid

32 ½ Richard Himan 11d per lug Done

32 ½ Steven Williams 11d not paid

32 ½ John Shore 11d

32 ½ Robert Rabbets 8d
 32 ½ William Targets 8d
 18 Joseph Burton 6d
 32 ½ William Palmar 11d Filling an Earnest not paid
 25 ½ William Witt 9d 18s 9d>
Sales of underwood for fuel or fencing. Bavins are bundles of brushwood.

SWINDON

General register, 1640-1679 (1357/1a)

Nicholas Noad, clerk at Swindon, approved as parish register before Gabriel Martyn, 17 Oct 1653. *He signed the pages of the previous register as parish clerk from 1623; he was buried 20 Jun 1666. The Noad family held the office for over 160 years. The burial of Roger Noad alias Bonny parish clerk took place 25 Mar 1685. Nicholas Noad parish clerk was buried 28 Aug 1729; he was baptized 2 Dec 1652, son of Roger Noad. The appointments of other family members are recorded below.*

Nicholas Noad clerk 1 Apr 1686

General register, 1678-1732 (1357/2)

The Revd Mr John Neate, late vicar of this parish, who was twice made happy by being born and married, to a kind and loving wife, on two Thursdays in two leap years, was much more made so by exchanging this life for a far better one on Thurs 25 day of Feb in the present year 1720 and was buried by Revd Mr Green of Chisledon in the chancel of the church of Swindon on Sat 27th.

20 Apr 1729 memo when I received the register book of Mr Cowper there was but nine clean leaves left in it as the churchwarden hereby testified, John Golding churchwarden.

31 Aug 1729 Henry Noad alias Bonny declared to be parish clerk of Swindon in the time of divine service in the morning by me John Broadway, vicar. Martha Clarke took penance 21 Jun 1730.

General register, 1732-1764 (1357/3)

17 Dec 1752 being Sun William Noad alias Bonny declared to be duly elected parish clerk of Swindon in the time of divine service in the morning by me, William Webb vicar.

General register, 1765-1812 (1357/4)

28 Jan 1781 on this day in the time of divine service in the morning it was signified to the parishioners of Swindon that Henry Noad was duly appointed to the office of parish clerk by me T[homas] Smyth vicar

Patience Ody performed penance 2 Apr 1786; William Jones curate.

TIDCOMBE

General register, 1731-1791 (1933/1)

25 Mar 1731 There are belonging to the parish of Tidcombe two old register books; the first of which begins 25 Apr 1639; in which two books are recorded 88 marriages, 452 christenings and 320 burials. But between 25 Apr 1639 and 25 Apr 1730 (being exactly 91 years) there are recorded; marriages 87, christenings 448; burials 320; of the burials 262 were males, 143 were females. Hence we may observe that the excess of males above females is considerably larger than Mr Grant in his observations on the bills of Mortality (p 66) allows. For he supposes the former to exceed the latter only as 14 to 13; whereas here the males christened to the females as 1, 4 is to 1, or almost 3 to 2, and the males buried are to the females more than the proportion of 7 to 6. In the next place it appears that the proportion of the males to the females is considerably larger in the christenings than the burials, whence we infer that a considerable number of males must have been cut off in war, at sea etc, upon account of which sorts of consumption probably it is that nature provides a larger number of one sex than the other.

The excess of the christenings above burials, is more than double the excess Mr Grant (p 58) tells us he had an account of from the country where there were 6339 christenings to 5280 funerals, the proportion of which is as 1, 202 is to 1. Or a small matter more than 6 christenings to 5 funerals.

The reason of this very considerable difference between the christenings and burials, I take to be this – that Tidcombe being a by [*small*] village here no trade is stirring, does but barely keep together inhabitants enough to tenant the houses and occupy the land, without inviting any greater number to settle in it: And the increase of the people disperse themselves by going apprentices, and trying their fortunes as traders or servants in cities, market towns etc, but especially in London – Whence we may observe: That the very great increase of London is in a great measure owing to the produce of remote villages drawn up thither. That notwithstanding the number of the people increases so far the nation as to double in no very long period of years. This increase is chiefly visible in trading towns and cities, but especially in London: Whereas the villages (and market towns) stand at a stay if they don't decline. We may from hence likewise conjecture that the more remote and lonely villages, hamlets etc, do discharge proportionately the greatest number of people; as Tidcombe (a very lonely village) more proportionately than the place whence Mr Grant had his account.

And whereas there were 448 christenings to 87 marriages the proportion gives nearly 5, 15 christenings for each marriage. R[obert] Parkes [minister] *John Graunt published . . . Observations . . . made upon Bills of Mortality . . . in 1662. It ran to several editions.*

27 Feb 1772 John Young, son of William Young, late clerk of this parish, was appointed clerk in the room of his late father by me J Roysse minister.

'I heard A voice from heaven saying unto me Right from hence forth blessed ar the Dead Wich Die in the Lord even so saith the Spirit for they rest from

Their Labours and their Works do Follow them Lord have mercy upon us.
Revelations 14 v 13.

TILSHEAD

General register, 1664-1745 (823/1)

Memo that on 8 Jan 1688 Hugh Cox of Tilshead in the county of Wilts, by his last will and testament gave per annum the use and interest of £10 to the vicar or minister of the said parish for the time being to preach a sermon in the said parish church yearly on the feast of the Assension of our lord and saviour Jesus Christ and to that end he gave £10 to be put out to use and interest by the churchwardens of the said parish and to remain for the use aforesaid for ever, witness our hands 4 Nov 1688, Anthony Delacourt vicar, George Slade John Cox churchwardens, Christopher Slade, Anthony Delacourt junior.

This register book in its present mutilated state was found in a shop kept by Mrs Thomas Lawes, whose relative was formerly churchwarden, by me and restored to the register box, other books also defective. JH Johnson vicar [1836-1884]

TISBURY

General register, 1563-1601 (812/4).

The great bell was new cast at Sarum in 1594 and weighs 16 hundred and –. The second bell was new cast at Sarum in 1597 and weighs –. The first bell was new made bought at Sarum in 1597 and weighs 7 hundred lacking 2 lbs.

From Christmas: Candell 6d; Strong 6d; Hulett 6d; Tucker 6d; Turner 6d.
 From the Annunciation [25 Mar]: LB 6d; CD 6d; . . . Mr Philip Style, E Fricker, Richard Corne, Nicholas Bisse, . . . 2s 6d; Pring 6d; Clement 6d; Fricker 6d.

From Christmas Richard Sca[mell] 6d. from Michaelmas . . .

From Christmas: Humphrey . . . od; R. Bande 6d; . . . Bisse . . . ; Henry Cumb 6d; . . . 1d.

Possibly references to the payment of Sacrament money paid to the church. See below.

General register, 1563-1652 (812/5)

8 Jan 1581 the day, month and year first above written Mr Alexander Clevlie, clerk BA, was inducted really into the vicarage of Tisbury in his own person by Charles Mathew clerk, according to the purport of an indenture granted by the archdeacon of Sarum, as by the same indenture more at large that may appear; and the same day after induction, had and taken at the time of morning prayer, most part of the parishioners being present, the said Alexander did read the articles by the Act of Parliament in that behalf provided and appointed these being witnesses whose names are underwritten; Charles Mathewe clerk, Robert Brett curate, John Combe and Thomas Rose churchwardens, Thomas Lane, Edmund Fezard and John Scamell sidesmen. *This is*

a more complete copy than the original in the previous register which lacks the date but in which the vicar's name is Cleveley.

Burial register, 1765-1812 (812/14)

Memo that the spire (which was 60 feet high from the tower) was on 12 Jan 1762, six o'clock in the morning, struck off in middle by lightning and no bell damaged; the expenses in building a tower and repairing the damages done to the church by the said accident amounted to £400 and upwards: John Crowch curate, William Thomas vicar.

Memo that the north pinnacle of the tower was on 15 Aug 1795, four o'clock in the afternoon, struck off by lightning; no further damage was done to the church by the above accident: William Easton curate.

<Sacrament money received by me, Thomas Provost vicar, and for which I have accounted: At Michaelmas 1796 the first sum and second 12s 3d; and the Christmas first and second 5s; at Easter 1797 by Mr Easton in the two sacraments 17s. Total £1 14s.>

TOCKENHAM

General register, 1653-1776 (907/1)

Richard Talour of Tockenham Wick, sworn as parish register before William Sadler and Gabriel Martyn, 26 Dec 1653.

Thomas Smith parish clerk was married 12 Feb 1661.

A particular of the bounds of the churchyard of the parish of Tockenham by whom the same ought to be made, amended and repaired:

From the tower on the south side to the parsonage Courtyard belongs to Kilberies close adjoining; all that straight hedge on the south side of the church belongs to the parsonage.

From the corner next the parsonage pond 116½ feet formerly belonged to the several tenements in the possession of Booth, Coles, Church etc; all of them now in the possession of Mr Smith.

Next that to the corner 16½ feet Humphrey Butcher; from the corner to the churchyard gate 8 feet formerly Booth's now Mr Smith's.

The gate and posts belong to the parish in general; from the gate on the right hand 27 feet belong to Sayes now Mr Knighton's; from thence to the corner containing 104½ feet; likewise beyond the corner 26½ feet belong to Mr Wallis's farm; from thence 45 feet to Mr Smith's lands at Shaw; from thence 7 feet to Francis Newman; from thence to the tower belongs to the parish in general.

This is an accompt I have formerly seen under the handwriting of Theophilous Quintin clerk who was rector of this parish many years; it was again examined and agreed unto by Mr Barkley, late rector of this parish, Edward Heath, then parish clerk and myself and attested under our several hands as this is under mine this 27th day of Sep 1714. M Smith; witnesses John Brinsdon, rector, John Taylor, clerk. *Quintin was rector from 1660 until c1680. Benjamin Barkley*

was rector 1689-1712.

Copy of churchwardens' presentment at the visitation court of the archdeacon of Wilts, Chippenham, 5 May 1710. Nothing to present: Churchwardens not named. *The original presentments for this visitation have not survived.*

The parish rate of Tockenham as I received it under the hands of Mr Quintin rector. Richard Church a very ancient inhabitant who died in 1676 and John Reeve another very ancient person who successively affirm the same to have continued according to the underwritten proportion for more than 80 years last past: The parsonage £60 pa; Mr Wallis's farm with Kilberies £104 pa; His farm at the upper end of the parish £43; Mr Smith's lands at Wick £77 pa; His lands at Shaw £60 pa; His lands at East fields £34 pa; Sayes now Mr Knighton's £21 pa; Christopher Pinneger £11 pa; Inwoods and Shuse £16 pa; Butcher's Lay close £3 pa; Vines £2 pa. The whole £431 pa.

This accmpt I received according to the particulars abovesaid and have the papers of Mr Quintin and Richard Church by me ready to produce; witness our hands this 29th day of April 1714. M Smith, John Reeve.

TOLLARD ROYAL

General register, 1689-1818 (1572/1) *The cover is embossed with brass.*

26 Jul 1714; whereas Robert Barber esq of Ashcombe has at his own proper cost and charge erected a gallery in the parish church of Tollard Royal (which said gallery stands in the north side of the said church, and contains 22 feet in length and seven in breadth) and has for and in consideration of erecting the same given to the poor of the said parish the sum of 40s, the receipt whereof is hereby acknowledged: We the minister, churchwarden and chief inhabitants of Tollard being legally assembled on the day and year abovewritten do hereby give our free consents, that he the said Robert Barber and his posterity shall from time to time and at all times enjoy the full use and benefit of the gallery. Witness our hands James Ivie rector, John Bennett churchwarden, Francis Newhooke overseer, Bartholomew Gilbert, Thomas Bench, Richard Woodford (X).

'Evening Hymn

Glory to thee my God this night
For all the Blessings of the Light
Keep me O keep me King of Kings
Under thy own Almighty wings

Forgive me Lord for thy dear son
the sins that I this Day have Done
that with the world myself and thee
I ere I sleep, at Peace may be

Teach me O Lord that I may Dread
The Grave so Little as my Bed

Teach me O Lord that so I may
When I awake at the Judgement Day.'

TROWBRIDGE ST JAMES

General register, 1539-1718 (608/1) *A gathering of two books.*

Memo that Francis Lovell does record for Mr Hawkins his bond in the register book to be kept safely; viz with it in the chest where the register book is to be kept in the church upon Whitsunday being 23 May 1613: Mr Thomas Wallis, Mr Robert Darke and Mr James Davis being present. *The rest of page cut and removed.*

Thomas Pelling was inducted by Mr George Commyn into the parsonage of Trowbridge in the presence of Randolph Morgan clerk, William Bailie, Hugh Hayward, John Hewsh, 24 Nov 1621.

25 Nov 1621 I Thomas Pelling on the day above written, being the first Sunday after my induction in to the parsonage of Trowbridge, did in the parish church publically read the Articles of Religion profess unfeigned assent and consent to them and to every other of them and to all things in them contained. Witnesses; Randolph Morgan, Edward Yerbury, William Suger, Hugh Hayward.

Mr Robert Godfrey, Mr Henry Butcher, Mr Fenton, Mr Thomas Carter, Mr William Rogers, ..., Mr Richard Brath, Mr James Welch, . . . *This list, in a late 17th cent hand, is written on the end cover.*

25 Jun 1648 memo the three keys of the church chest were delivered; one to Thomas Pelling the minister; one to Henry Wakom churchwarden; one to Henry Davis overseer of the poor

Robert Hawkins was inducted rector of the church, 17 Feb 1665.

Notes written by Samuel Griffiths ?parish clerk.

'The Prayer for the King Tener

Dear Lord mak thy sarvant Jams our gracious
king to reioyce in thy strength O Lord let hem greatly
Reioyce in thy salvation O Lord give hem ever
Lasting felycyty Good God

Asist him O Lord with the Joys of thy
Countynance Lord thou hast sett A Crown of pure Gold on
His head & upon hem self his crown Long flurish

Holyluia.' *Written for James 2nd, the catholic king, 1685-1688, deposed as a result of the 'Glorious Revolution'.*

'Stremes of Bablon

As by the stremes of Bablon
Far from our natiul ?soil we sate
? sweet sion the we thought upon

...

sitting by the streams of gilded down.'

Samuel Griffiths his book Amen 1689 20 Oct 1686 Samuel Burgis and I accounted and due to me 3s 6d; a horse to Beckington.

13 Jul 1690 accounted with William Whatley and then due to him 6s 2d: a piece of beef 9d; a neck of mutton 5d; a 'beed' of beef 14lb 2s; a 'grisell' of beef 1s 8d; a 'flax and kerring' 5s 8d; a 'live' of mutton 6s; a 'Rearing' of beef, a parcel of pork 2s 2d.

11 Sep received of William Whatley: 2 shoulders of mutton 1s 6d; a piece of beef a piece of pork, a piece of mutton 1s 10d.; received of William Whatley a shoulder of veal 1s; a hind 2d; a 'rearing' of beef, a s . . . of veal, a neck of mutton 3s.

15 dec 1692 Anthony Bull 'bouft' [bought] a horse of Edward Shovell the price £1 6s, to pay the money 25 Jul.

24 Aug 1706 received of Philip Mose 2s 6d for Anthony Deverell's interest for £5.

28 Feb 1707 Thomas Coly went to Bradford to Cooper's.

24 Jul lent Mr Cox 5s. 1¾ yd of serge.

17 Feb half a 'fligo' of beef 14lb 3s 3d.

22 Nov 1704 borrowed of Mr John Davis, 9s. >16s< 6½ d.

23 Mar 1706 bought 3 score faggots priced 10s 6d; the six 'peces' paid each of James Iles.

1 Jun 1705 received of Harry Iles 10s.

About 28 Aug received of Mr Milsham of Bradford for interest 6s.

28 Aug 1705 John Goupey was at Trowbridge.

28 Aug 1705 laid half crown with William Benet that John Rundol do pay me £2 in eight weeks time.

1705 June the last bought a sack of wheat cost 14s.

6 Mar 1708 delivered to John Newton the black cloth of waste and promised to pay me.

Bought of Mary Whatley 22 May 17.: 8¾ lb of bacon at 4d a lb 2s 9d; 2 backribs 2s; a piece of bacon 8p.

27 Aug Roger Laws for water 2s 2d; 21 Sep 2 noggins of water when he was going to London with my horse.

John Whitaker his breast of beef weighed 24lb at 2d a lb it came to 4s.

26 Jun 1704 John Cros paid the last interest

24 Aug 1704 received of Thomas Milsom for a year's interest 12s the rest more due then 2 months.

Notation for change ringing six bells, mid-18th century.

Baptism register, 1761-1812 (608/3)

Memo; a confirmation was held in the church, 14 Aug 1801, by John bishop of Salisbury; on the same day a portion of land on which an ancient building occupied by several poor persons, belonging to Trowbridge and a small piece of ground purchased by the parish of Edward Bisser, was consecrated. Gilbert Beresford rector. *The land was for an addition to the churchyard.*

Burial register, 1761-1812 (608/9)

James Tyrrell parish clerk 1780.

UPAVON**General register, 1687-1742 (1834/1)**

Thomas Batterson officer was removed from Ludgershall to this town 16 Jan 1723. T Batterson

The clock and watch was given to the parish by Hon John Wyndham esq, lord of this manor and set up at his own charges 15 Apr 1700, made by Richard Haughton of London. *The clock was the going train and the watch the striking train of the clock.*

10 Sep 1704 Gilbert bishop of Sarum preached and confirmed in the parish church more than 300 persons.

General register, 1742-1792 (1834/2)

Mr Cooke began 11 Apr 1762. *William Cooke was curate.*

UPTON LOVELL**General registers, 1653-1711, 1712-1794 (1440/1-2)**

Charles Newsham took the care of souls of Upton Lovell, 24 Feb 1685.

John Whittingham took the care of souls of Upton Lovell, 12 Feb 1689.

Lewis Thomas took the care of souls of Upton Lovell, 25 Feb 1709.

John Crowch took the care of souls of Upton Lovell, 11 Apr 1771; on the death of his father.

Agreed by the minister and parishioners of Upton Lovell that Goodman Powell and his wife are to have 2s per week towards their maintenance. [*In 1440/2*]

UPTON SCUDAMORE**General register, 1654-1699 (1741/1)**

Thomas Burges of Upton Scudamore was sworn as parish register before Edward Michell, 20 Jun 1654.

Memo that upon Sunday being the eleventh day of October in the year of our Lord 1691 Richard Barry rector of Upton Scudamore did in the parish church during the time of divine service publicly and openly read the Common Prayers of the Church of England, accordingly to the form and order prescribed and directed by the Book entitled the Book of Common Prayer and Administration of the Sacraments and other Rites and Ceremonies of the church according to the use of England, together with the psalms of David, printed as they are to be sung or said in churches, and the form or manner of making, ordaining and consecrating of bishops, priests and deacons; and immediately after his reading of the same, made a declaration of his unfeigned

assent and consent to all the matters and things therein contained in the form and words prescribed by the Act on that behalf; and also at the same time did read his certificate to the Declaration of its being unlawful to take up arms against the king and of his abhorrence of taking arms by his authority against his person etc, and likewise of his conformity to the Liturgy of the Church of England as it is now by law established, also did read the declaration and acknowledgement itself. Furthermore that he read the thirty nine Articles in the church at the same time & declared his unfeigned assent & consent to all things therein contained. In the presence of us: William Wright churchwarden, Giles Hill overseer, Anthony Bell tithingman, George Turner.

Memo that on Monday being 23rd Nov 1702 John Hancock of the parish of Warminster with his soon John came over to Upton to me and paid me 4s by way of satisfaction for the tithe of an acre of wheat by him taken away last harvest, the acre being Richard Cayford's the elder, and lying at Sharp Meer; and paid me likewise at the same time 20s more to discharge my expense at law (having commenced a suit against him in the Exchequer) the father and the son both promising never to pretend to the said tithe again, nor to give me any further disturbance therein for the time to come: in the presence of my sister Jane Johnson, George Turner, the parish clerk and William Greenhill my servant, and my wife. All which I thought fit to enter in this old register, as a standing testimony of his (the said John Hancock's) acquiescing in my right and title to the said tithe, for the future benefit of me and my successors if ever occasion should require. Witness my hand the day and year above written. Richard Barry rector.

Memo that mortuaries have been paid time out of mind to the rector of Upton Scudamore: those which happened of late years have been paid by the executors of Giles Hill, Nicholas Hill, Robert aBath.

Three half acres, the tithe of which was allowed by Mr Davis lord Weymouth's steward, to the rectory instead of the tithe of the three half acres at Bristol Cross, which were taken into Warminster enclosure. Mr Temple's land at Whitehouse down; south abutting on lord Weymouth's land; east laying on Whitehouse down; north abutting on the down; west on Bailey's one acre, Tree's one acre, Jeffery's 3 yards, rector's 1 yard, Mrs Seaman's 1 acre. Joseph Barnes shewed me this ground 20 Apr 1788.

Mr Davis is concerned that the dispute about the manor of Upton Scudamore is likely to occasion a dispute between Queen's College [Oxford] and lord Bath – Mr Owen may be assured that my lord does not wish to go to law, but at the same time will defend his property, but as the right of manor may be as well tied at another time, if Mr Owen will let this deodand go Mr Davis will do the same and let it be claimed by neither of them. Longleat 24 Oct 1790. Mr. Owen, Upton Scudamore [rector]. *Deodand, a chattel which having been the cause of death of a person was forfeited to the crown for pious uses. This may relate to an inquest into the death of a carrier from Nailsworth, Gloucs, 22 Oct 1790 [WRS vol36 no.1737]. The parish register records the burial on the same day of John Cook, struck by a cart.*

The 2 cottages in Biss Bottom were built on the waste. They belonged to old Thomas Slade. Slade made a bill of sale to his son, who died before him. Slade's son's widow married Joseph Watts. About 18 years ago, Joseph Watts claimed the cottages in the name of his wife. The parish refused to grant Watts possession. Watts applied to lord Weymouth's steward for a lease, which was granted to him, and there was a quit rent of 1s a year reserved, which has been paid. J Watts sold the cottages, one to old Daniel Barnes; the other to Nightingale, which is since sold to Robert Rimall. 12 Nov 1790. R Rimell gave me this information. *These last three notes were pasted into the register presumably by Thomas Owen the rector.*

General register, 1699-1765 (1741/2)

On the cover is a note written by N Thompson, curate, on 22 Jan 1846 that during repairs to the chancel on 3 Jan 1846 a tomb marked WS 1722 was opened and found to be quite empty with no vestige of human remains or inscription. The workmen were convinced that it had never held a corpse. Mr William Seaman was buried 3 Dec 1722.

Baptism register, 1763-1812 (1741/3)

Note of payments of duties on christenings etc to Mr Davies and his wife between 18 Feb 1789 and 2 Oct 1791.

Marriage register, 1755-1812 (1741/5)

Country licence for duty on registry of burials, marriages, births and christenings for Revd Thomas Owen issued by John Flower and William Salmon, 21 Oct 1780.

Burial register, 1765-1812 (1741/7)

2 Jun 1791 walked around the boundaries of the parish
 21 Jul 1791 received of John Pearce 10s being mortuary money due to the rector on the death of Christopher Pearce.
 28 Feb 1792 same for Thomas Barter dissenter.
 19 Dec 1793 Paid W Boucher ten years' pension for the bishop of Salisbury to Michaelmas last past, for this living. The annual demand is 1s 4d for the pension and acquittance.
 17 May 1798 walked around the boundaries of the parish. Took in Norridge farm and the down beyond it, belonging to Cley Hill farm. These fields pay no tithes.
 23 May 1805 walked around the boundaries of the parish.

URCHFONTE

General register, 1538-1559 (645/1).

'Inprimis v auter clothes. Item iij table clothes. Item iiij ables. Item ij aparns [aprons]
 Item one vestement. Item a fonte clothe. Item a frounte clothe for the hie aulter
 Item iij banners. Item ij surplices. Item a dockett

Inprimis v aulter clothes. Item v triells . . . s. Item one cope. Item one apurne [*apron*]

Item ii cis . . . Item one . . . Item iiij surplices. Item one brasen crosse. Item ij candelstikes

Item a pere of sensers. Item one pixe of bras. Item the aumbry . . . the pix is hanged in

Item one pax. Item one oyle boxe. Item chalyshe of silver & gilte. Item one paten of tyne

Item one broche. Item ij rakes. Item one bras pan. Item ij platters. Item iiij pottengers

Item ij dosen trenchers. Item a pikaxe. Item iiij bells. Item i sanc . . . boke . . . bell

Item a lychebell. Item a st . . . Item iiij la . . . Item the bells . . . s. Item the communion boke . . . Item for mendinge the led . . . iiis. Item for nails 6d. Item for an iren exe . . . & oyl vid & the byble iiis iiiid'

General register, 1560-1644 (645/2)

A great snow fell one mid Lent Sunday in the morning afore day which was 3 Mar 1695. *Written on the cover.*

John Crooke, clerk and baker, 13 Oct 1694.

General register, 1631-1653 (645/3)

6 Aug 1644 was buried Mr Peter Glassbrook a labourious and constant preacher of the word of God in Urchfont and vicar of the parish.

Notes by John Crooke, clerk.

'John Crooke baker and register of Urchfont 8 Dec 1693.

Man is a glass

Life is as water

So weakly wayld about

Sinn brings in Death

Death breaks the glass

So runst the water out'

'John Crooke may goe look

This is in the month of June

That Somethings are in tune.

John Crooke of Urchfont clerk and baker 8 Aug 1695. And harvest not begin til the nix wick [*next week*] 1695'. *Crooke also wrote his name and title in 1686.*

'welth maketh many friends but the Poore is seperated from his neighbour'.

'what man is he that livith and

shal not see heath

Soul or shal deliver

His body from the grave'

8 Aug 1695 we are alive William Hutchens living at Mr Alexander at the farm and John Shergall and William Nash. Henry Goodbee living at Sir William Pynsent, knight and 'Barnit' [*baronet*].

General register, 1653-1687 (645/4)

William Wilde, register, signed the title page and witnessed several marriages from 1655.

General register, 1683-1746 (645/5)

Thomas Combes a laborious and constant preacher of the word of God was buried 6 Aug 1686, and vicar of Urchfont. *Not mentioned in the record of his successor's institution in Phillipp's.*

General register, 1746-1801 (645/6)

Memo we whose names are underwritten do certify and declare that Edward Northey, clerk, vicar of Urchfont, was in the presence of us inducted into the church of Urchfont by J Legg, rector of Holton in Somersetshire, on 11 Oct 1800, by virtue of certain letters of induction made under the hand and seal of William Whitworth, clerk, archdeacon of Sarum: Record of his subscription to the 39 Articles of religion in church after morning and evening prayers on Sun 12 Oct 1800. Witnesses; W Keetch, Richard Compton.

Burial register, 1801-1812 (645/9)

'In the year of 1809 on the 21 Day of April a deep Snow fell it his Reported to be Eighteen Inches in Depth on the Level soil of Land and a great Number of Trees breaking by the Wayght of it.'

WANBOROUGH

General register, 1582-1653 (1788/1)

Sir John Downbell minister buried here 14 Feb 1593. *Not in Phillipp's. Sir here used as an ecclesiastical title to mean father.*

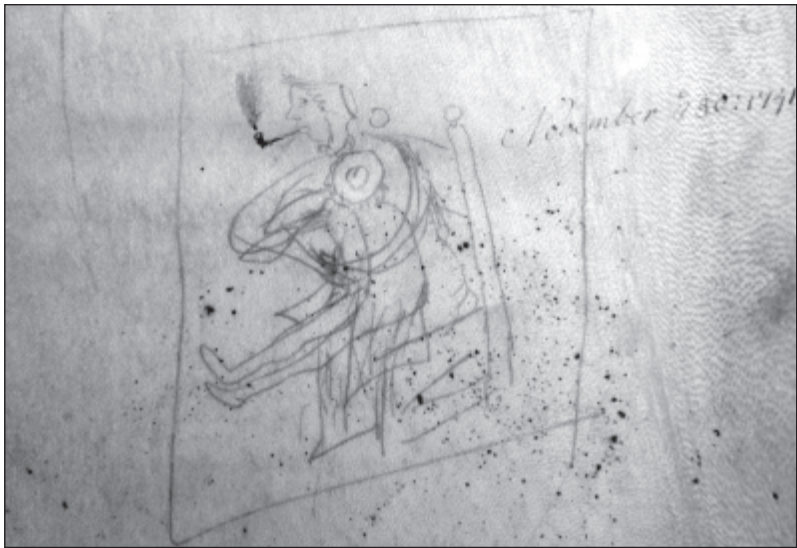
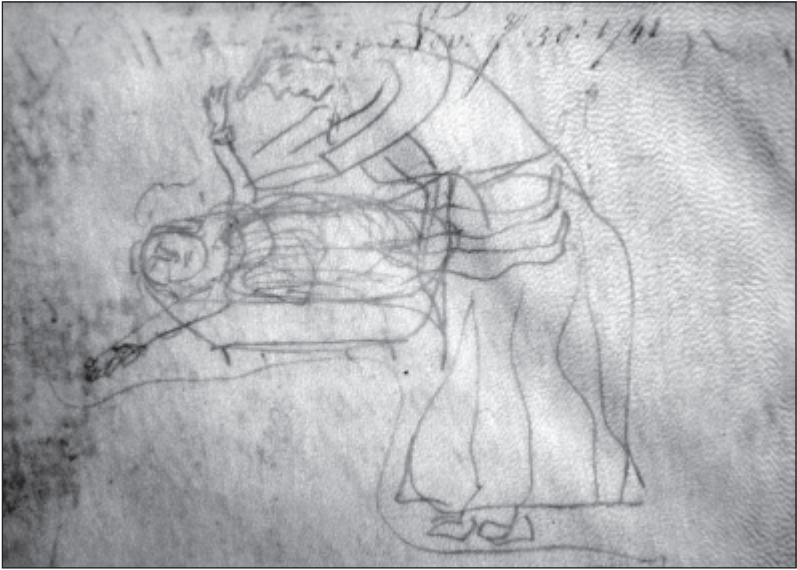
Elizabeth daughter of Thomas Read, parish clerk, baptized 12 Jul 1606.

The lady Mary Hinton from Eastcott buried in the chancel under the communion table 18 Apr 1632; at whose burial Sir Thomas Hinton gave to the poor 40s by me disbursed John Harward [clerk].

General register, 1726-1753 (1788/3)

10 Jul 1729 memo that there are about 364 east side common leases in Wanborough and that 100 of them or more are every year stocked with foreign cattles out of other parishes, which yield no profit to the parson or vicar either by plow or pail, therefore a tenth part ought to be paid for their agistment but nothing is or has been paid to the vicar for their pasturage there.

10 Aug 1731 Memo whereas a dispute did arise between Mr John Brind of this parish and Henry Avenil of the same, about two seats in this church of Wanborough belonging to an house late in the possession of Mr Henry Philips and now in the possession of the said Mr John Brind: It appeared



'Not here George Gooding' Written in a contemporary hand beside the illustrations drawn 30 Nov 1741.

upon evidence of very old people, that the seats did belong to the house of Mr John Brind and not to the college land purchased by Henry Avenil of Mrs Frances Philips. Witness my hands Gilbert Cowper vicar of Wanborough.

Feb 1739 agreed that I should have for serving the curacy of Wanborough £31 pa, all the surplice fees except those for burying of strangers which were to be equally divided betwixt Mr Cowper and me and also the house, stable and garden, he finding all the repairs. Witness my hand John Bowles.

Feb 1740 That Mr Cowper allowed me £31 pa together with the vicarage house and garden with the stable (he being at the expence of all repairs both of the house and the mounds of the garden), also the surplice fees whatsoever, except for burying strangers which viz 6s 8d and 2s 6d, it was expressly agreed should be equally divided betwixt us; for serving the curacy of Wanborough reckoning 52 Sundays for a year. Witness my hand John Bowles

General register, 1753-1801 (1788/4)

21 Apr 1759 it snowed all day and the snow continued deep on the ground the 22 and the 23; a very dry and seasonable summer and autumn.

WARMINSTER

General register, 1563-1653 (2144/1).

The register was written up by William Boyes in 1598 and continued by him until 1607 in a fine italic hand. He identified himself in the record of the baptism of his son John on 23 Aug 1583.

‘The clerkes wagis 4d.’ c1600.

General register, 1653-1682 (2144/2)

Rawlyns Perry of Warminster, elected register in place of Henry Gerrish who was removed and displanted from the execution of the office by the parish, sworn as parish register before Edward Michell. 8 Feb 1655.

General register, 1682-1759 (2144/3)

Accounts of altar offerings; about 25s per month; surplice fees from marriages; 2s 6d each; and churching fees; 6d each, 1773-1777.

Baptism register, 1778-1812 (2144/7)

Number of christenings in 1778 108; burials 98, whereof 38 were children and 3 accidental deaths viz. Thomas Bisse, exposed by his parents to the severity of the weather, Benjamin Parker, killed by the falling in a stone quarry, and John Carr, by a kick from a horse. Thomas Huntingford curate.

WESTBURY

General register, 1653-1679 (1427/4)

John Norroway of Westbury sworn as parish register before Edward Michell, 6 Dec 1653. *The birth of a son of John Norroway, parish clerk, is recorded 24 Apr 1679 on the cover.*

Made an accompt with Thomas Safford 24 Sep 6/7 [?1667] for the bell and

other accmpts the which he had in his hand. Thomas Phips, John Gibbs churchwardens.

General register, 1703-1729 (1427/6)

Benjamin Bourne His book 1706. *Probably the parish clerk.*

General register, 1729-1756 (1427/7)

An account of . . . for the communion seen and taken in the year 1750 and entered into this book 1760 by me Thomas Hewitt, vicar:

One large gilt silver cup with a foot and a belly which is chased and round the top of the cup within four lines are contained the following words; 'Given to the church of Westbury by Colonel Wancklin and Mary countess of Marlborough 1691' and a cover to the above cup gilt; on the outside of which on the one side it is marked with these letters Fid; on the other side MM.

Two gilt cups and two covers, pretty near of a size: One cup has these words and letters on it; 'Westbury RE TM Churchwardens 1690'; the cover with these letters JHS; the other cup and cover neither letter nor mark.

One silver waiter with the words 'this plate is given for the Glory of God to Westbury Church 1750' on the one side; the Bayley coat of arms on the other: this silver waiter was the present [of] Sarah Bayley in her love gave it to Westbury Church 1750 and at her desire Mr Hewitt got Mr Thomas Burrough silversmith in the Devizes to engrave the above words on the backside.

A pewter salver in the middle of which is Our Saviour on the ass and these words 'What have we that we have not received of the Lord . . .

One pewter dish, two pewter flagons marked EB. One bowl and three napkins, one of which is marked WP. *Thomas Wancklin was the trustee of the estate of James Ley, earl of Marlborough; he married the earl's widow, Mary. They gave the acorn cup to the parish.*

Here lyeth the Body of Mrs Elizabeth Ivie late
Wife of Mr James Ivie vicar of Westbury and
Third daughter of Robert Barber of Tollard Roy-
Al in the County of Wilts esqr & of Ann
His wife one of the daughters of Sir Robert
Seimour of Handford in the County of Dorset
Knight Who departed this Life the 26th day of
Aprill 1684 in the 32nd year of her age.

1 Aug 1764 the above is the inscription on the fine large blue stone in the parish church which you must cross as you go into the great chancel, provided you come into the church at the little chancel door; the inscription being near wore out I have entered it into the register as the stone lies over a brick grave and nobody else has been buried here since, nor before Mrs Ivie; until Thomas, son of Revd Mr Thomas Hewitt vicar and Mrs Honour his wife, was buried 15 Apr 1754; and Mrs Honour Dimon, my wife's mother, 7 Apr 1756, and Dimon, son of Revd Mr Thomas Hewitt vicar and Mrs Honour his wife, buried in the same grave 19 Apr 1757. These are all that are as yet buried in this grave. Mrs Ivie's corpse was mouldered to dust: But I would not suffer any part of her to be removed; but her remains I had brushed up

and placed in one corner of the grave. My design was to have Mrs Ivie's inscription fresh cut and my own family; but my design and principal view in making this memorandum is for the information of future vicars to assert their right of burial in this grave, independent of either fee or reward to the churchwardens of Westbury, as I did for my family; and prevent all others from being buried here; except the vicars and their families and friends. This brick grave was going to be laid claim to for a burial place of other families of this parish, but I opposed it and kept up my right to it; in respect to Mr Ivie's family who I must observe was the last vicar who asserted his right to the houses builded on Westbury churchyard next the mill pond and I sued for in Chancery which were delivered up to me 29 Sep 1759 and on account of his other suits for the house and garden (which one Michael Goddard, lord Abingdon's bailiff) next to now Henry Barker's Lord Abingdon's Arms, which he recovered and which is now on a lease for a term of 40 years to Mrs Susanna Stillingfleet, sister to the late Mr William Wroughton vicar; of which term of years, six years are to come sometime this August. For this lease was made sometime in August 1730, as Mr William Boucher, register of the Chantor's court of Sarum, assured me from an abstract of the lease in that court. Witness my hand Thomas Hewitt vicar.

Copy of a reversionary lease, 18 Apr 1688, by Thomas Coles and William Whitaker churchwardens of Bratton to John Burgess of Bratton, of the Church house at Milburne, Bratton and a plot on the south side 2 luggs long and 13 feet wide; consideration £4, rent 10s. endorsed assigned by Burgess to George Ford, 30 Mar 1702; and by Ford to William Ford, Edington, husbandman, his father, 7 Apr 1702: Property then also described as at Townsend.

This is a copy of an old lease James Tanner of Bratton, son in law of Gabriel Rawlins, who lived in this house, which they call the Church house etc, and lies on the south end of the vicarage garden brought to me in the year 1750. I copied it and inserted it here for the use of vicars of Westbury. This James Tanner looking and taking care of his father in law Gabriel Rawlins and his wife, had a kind of claim to this house by the indulgence of John Drewett and John Nevil, churchwardens. I had a contest with this James Tanner (whom Mr William Wroughton, vicar had suffered to build a necessary house of office and a stable at the east end of this church house, where formerly were Barrails and the ancient road into the garden) about my road into the garden, or who else to pay me a yearly rent for the standing of this necessary house and stable, but he refused and would force me to go through Mr William Whitaker's of the Porch his ground at the west end of the house; but they locked up their gate and stopt out my clerk Christopher Tucker, who rented the garden of me, from going this way with a wagon to dung the ground and said that the east end of the dwelling house was my road. In this trouble, doubt and difficulty I remained until 1755 when I employed one Mr Edward Pierce, attorney at law, to talk to him about it and to John Nevil, one churchwarden; and myself talked to Mr Drewitt, the other churchwarden; but all to no purpose: But Christopher Tucker, dying about the Spring 1756 and a year's rent due, on the 30th Aug 1756; the garden having a crop of wheat on it, my brother Mr Richard Hewitt, attorney at law being at Westbury to see me from Mac-

clesfield in Cheshire, we went and seized the wheat; but Solomon Tucker, brother to Christopher Tucker, paying down the sum of £1, being two years rent due 5 Apr 1757. I let him have the wheat provided he gave the garden up into my hands, which he did, 5 Apr 1757. Then Tanner offered me 1s a year to let them stand by Mr James Long; which I said I would, excepted if he would hold it of me under articles of agreement and pay for the making of the articles, also the arrears of rent due to me, the expense I had been at and provide me a road through Mr Whitaker's ground, all which he rejected. As to the rent in arrears I could not come to it for this reason; the house and premises, my brother found out were Gabriel Rawlin's not James Tanner's, so no action would lie against James Tanner, and when James Tanner offered me these proposals, Gabriel Rawlins was lately dead and buried at Bratton Meeting [house]. So the money being lost, on 24th May 1757 in the afternoon I took James Bourne clerk of Westbury, John Newman the sexton, John Burgis clerk of Dilton, his son Ralph Burgis, Robert Flux of Edington my servant boy, and got Mr Humphrey Whitaker, the son of William of the Porch, to make his servant Richard Smith, the son of Margaret Smith, to load a wagon load of dung at the farm at the Porch, which he did and we drove it up to the stable etc and finding no road we beat down the stable and necessary house in the sight of James Tanner and drove the wagon load of dung into the garden; thus I recovered my road: And it has never been disputed since I did not beat down the oven which is on the vicar's land. I have here signed my name this 9th Feb 1762 to this being the truth and my present boy servant William Blake of Bratton saying he saw me beat it down; witness my hand Thomas Hewitt.

One reason for inserting the last mentioned lease is this; to show that the churchwardens of Bratton have no right to any land on the north side of the house for the vicar's garden come up even close to the walls of the back part of the house; that impudence of James Tanner having a door on the north of the house and stepping into my garden every now and then was unaccountable. I often threatened to sue him for it. That wing of the Church house, as they call it, on the north east end which is a large room and cellars under, is built on the vicarage garden as Christopher Tucker told me and Gabriel Rawlins and James Tanner, Christopher said, paid Mr William Wroughton a lord's rent for that whole room; but I lost that rent in the same manner as I lost that money due to me on the stables standing on my road into my garden. There was another impudent action of the same churchwardens 1754 or 1755, who got James Nevil of Dunge, who lives at Mr Houlton's farm and two other persons to be homage, and they, without ever acquainting me of it, went into my garden and took and staked out from the ditch at the west end of the garden as much land in breadth as the room at the east end is in depth; so they would have had a garden on the north side of the house also, but as soon as I heard it I took Christopher Tucker and made him pull up all the stakes and threatened the churchwardens and homage and all concerned with an action. Thus I 'sto'pt 'em' this time, for they have not an inch of land beyond the dropping of the eaves of the house on the north side and the length and width on the south side as described in the lease. Afterwards I ordered Christopher Tucker to cast up a ditch and bank to stop them out but

he has left a space between the ditch and house of the same width with the large room and cellars described above, for which I blamed him; for in the year 1766 or 1761 John Smith, gardener, placed up against this room a small shed to put hogshead in and at the west end as it were between the vicar's land and Mr Whitaker's land; about the year 1761 he built a necessary house of brick. I told him 1763 I would sue him but he came to me to Westbury and told me he would pay me a rent for this space of land and the standing of these buildings and the agreement I was to have it made, but have not yet but shall. I have money of his for green tithes, out of which I shall pay myself, if I lose the Chancery suit with Mr Bennett for the tithes of all orchards and gardens and green tithes in the common fields, or else where through the whole parish of Westbury. This is the truth, but have done nothing this far with John Smith 1768. Thomas Hewitt vicar of Westbury.

Mr Benett held the rectory of Westbury by lease from the Chantor of Salisbury cathedral.

Copies of the lease for one year and release, with the Chantor's confirmation, dated 5,6 and 7th Mar 1770 of the exchange of 1 acre of glebe land in 3 different parcels in an enclosure called Eleven Acre Tynning in Dilton field, viz ½ acre in the middle of the enclosure [running] east to west, a parcel in the enclosure and under the hedge of an enclosure called Balls, wheron elms are planted under this hedge, and the other in the north west corner of the enclosure adjoining glebe land and divided by a hedge and trees, belonging to the vicarage for 1 acre in Dilton field bounded on the south by 1 acre of Thomas Phipps esq of Heywod and on the north by 3 yard of glebe, all belonging to Thomas Phipps esq of Westbury Leigh, part of his freehold belonging to Dilton Living; to which deeds is annexed the Chantor's seal of office all on parchment duly stamped and lodged for the benefit of future vicars of Westbury in the Chantor's court of Sarum and not in lord bishop of Sarum's muniment house; as witness my hand Thomas Hewitt.

A full transcript of the deeds was made in the register.

It might be useless to say anything more in praise of the utility of this exchange of lands, but that it may not be thought unnecessary, though the confirmation sets forth the advantages of this exchange of land; just to remark that it was high time to bring such an intricate affair to a final conclusion as Mr William Wroughton, my predecessor in the vicarage, had made a verbal exchange with old Mr Thomas Phipps esq so long ago as the year 1731, and gave Mr Phipps leave to inclose his land and dig through the vicarage land to plant hedges and trees; yet left not the least memorandum of this exchange for me to walk by, never describing what acre of land he had in lieu of it. Some people said the vicar had an acre of land on the Pound Nap at Westbury of old Mr Phipps, others denied it, and said it was at Dilton; but did not know where it lay. And Mr Wroughton's sister afterwards, Susanna Stillingfleet, pretended to have forgot where it lay. And Mr Phipps, as I was told, ... say, to somebody, that he believed I could not make out the land, where the glebe lay, and I had been from 14th Nov 1749 to the later end of the year 1753 and had not made it out nor paid no rent, and Robert Carpenter took the tithe of this acre of glebe along with Mr Phipps own land in the same manner as he had

done in Mr William Wroughton's time, which if I could not make it out, it would be his own. But very happily for me farmer John Hill of Leigh knew it, drove a plough in it when a boy, his father Anthony Hill, whom knew rented it, many years, when he lived at Dilton; and Henry Axford, his sons Thomas and John Axford, Richard Harris the elder, his son Richard Harris, now an old man, and his grandson Richard Harris, now a widower with James Harris the shepherd and Henry Harris his sons, John Burgis the clerk, his son Ralph Burgis, Andrew Hill, all knew it; and pointed out the hedges, but most particularly farmer John Hill, John Burgis and Andrew Hill, who all had ploughed and reaped corn there many years; so they set out the hedges for me about Christmas 1753 and I ordered John Burgis my clerk, Ralph Burgis his son, who lived servant with me the, Thomas Hales of Heywod Cleeves and Thomas Hancock, the labourer of this town, to cut the hedges and lop the trees, which they did and carried the faggots, upwards of 6 score, into my new house at Dilton; which faggots I kept. This brought the matter to crisis and Mr Phipps yielded to me, before the middle Richard Harris, this acre; we have made at last a final exchange and I have held Mr Phipps' acre in my own hands ever since Ladyday 1754: being determined to keep it always in my own possession I have at various times cut the thorns and hedges since when I wanted thorns; sometimes by John Burgis my clerk, sometimes by Samuel Web of Heywood, several times by Giles Smith of Heywood; winter 1769 by Giles Smith of Heywood, Thomas Hancock of Westbury labourer and William Bengar of Westbury my present servant, who wrote into this book the copy of the lease and release and confirmation on Mon 19th and Tues 20th Mar 1770.

Now all the people of consequence being dead, except the Harrises, Giles Smith and Thomas Hancock and considering that by cutting the hedge, it caused Mr Phipps and myself to disagree and that, in case I should die and leave it unsettled and no memorandums; and if Harrises should die, it might be lost, and willing to get the glebe land into larger inclosures, thought this the best method to effect and secure these exchanges of land to the vicarage for ever; and he that comes after me, had he been vicar when I was, would think, as I now do, had he had the trouble, the contests and expense, that I had to secure the rights and privileges of the vicars, that this is right; but hope that none other will have little or none; so I did all others farewell as to this matter, 22nd Mar 1770: Thomas Hewitt, William Benger.

William Benger 22 Jan 1778 lives now, and has done ever since he was my servant (except about $\frac{3}{4}$ of a year), servant with Thomas Phipps of Heywood esq. Witness my hand Thomas Hewitt.

Revd Mr Thomas Hewitt to William Boucher 1770: For drawing and engrossing a deed of exchange of land between Mr Hewitt as vicar of Westbury and Thomas Phipps esq of Leigh £1 10s; stamps and parchment 3s 9d; drawing and engrossing lease for a year 16s 8d; stamps and parchment 3s 6d; drawing and engrossing faculty of confirmation of such exchange 16s 10d; stamps and parchment 3s 9d; seal fee to official 6s 8d; for registering the deeds and faculty 13s 4d. Total £4 5s 6d.

Paid Mr William Boucher the contents of the above from Thomas Hewitt for

the writings and stamps entered on the former pages concerning the exchange of glebe land between Thomas Phipps esq and me as vicar of Westbury; John Reeks DD, the late official died at his rectory of Stratford Tony on Fri 29 Jun 1770. Thomas Hewitt vicar.

As the rectory tenants I have always found litigious and encroaching on the vicarage underneath is a memorandum of the bounds of the rectory orchard which comes against the vicar's granary and best garden:

The brick wall at the south end of the vicarage stable George Collins built under the direction of William Bourne clerk for the Revd Mr Thomas Hewitt in Dec 1749 or the Jan following, whilst I was absent in Essex after I took possession of the vicarage, but was not then come to reside for good. About 5 years after I raised it as high as it now is. William Bourne and George Collins told me Ladyday 1750, when I came to residence, that they did not build the wall by $\frac{1}{2}$ a foot so long as the old wall and pales which where there before; upon which I had an oak post put to the end of the wall to keep my ground and to keep the end bricks from tumbling down. This post stood all Mrs Mary Ford's time, who rented the parsonage. But in the March Assizes in the Spring 1760, being obliged to attend the Assizes in the suit of Miss Frances Wats against Robert Carpenter; Thomas Huntley, who rents the parsonage now, putting up new pales to the east end of the orchard, made Whatley Paviour the carpenter take out my post and used it and put their post and rails against the end of my wall; so that that post, properly speaking, stands in the vicar's ground. I expostulated the affair with Whatley Paviour and thought to have pulled it up; but as it made my garden private, which was often exposed to the street, I concluded to let it stand.

Therefore when they make their staked hedge always make 'em to place their stakes to the outside of this post and put the stakes in the old stakes holes; and at the first turning they must leave the 'scrub' codling tree, planted by Mr William Wroughton in the granary garden, to the vicar's side and in the corner a damson tree Mrs Hewitt planted about 1759, in the place of a little 'scrub' apple tree which died. This damson, and the walnut tree that was planted by Mr Wroughton, the staked hedge must go on the outside them, likewise on the outside of the yew tree, which John Porch and William Blake my servant brought from the bottom of the best garden and planted it here where it stands in the Fall 1761; and the staked hedge is to go about a foot beyond my upper necessary house at the south end of it and about 2 feet beyond at the north end, so as to leave the root of the ashen tree at the end of my necessary house in my garden: for that ashen tree was mine and I cut it down in the Assizes week in Mar 1756, just before Mrs Mary Ford left the parsonage; William Barnes, George Sweetland junior, both since dead, John Burgis clerk of Dilton, Ralph Burgis his son then my servant, cut it down and Thomas Taylor and another man sawed it into boards for me and I fairly had the whole tree. Thomas Huntly though instigated Mr Harmood, the steward for the minor, Mr William Bennett, and Purse Bearer to lord Chancellor Henly, to sue me, but they have never ventured to do it; neither has Mr John Hughs the lawyer of Warminster done it, though he viewed it with Robert Carpenter, Whatley Paviour and Thomas Huntly and others

and told me he would still bring the action but I hear nothing of it this 10 Jun 1762 and now I know he is excluded; bringing an action by the Statute of Limitations 18 Nov 1763: The yew tree being dead made Samuel Web of Heywood and my servant Samuel Tucker dig it up by the roots; the 'scrub' codling tree since dying the last spring being 1763, made John Porch and his son John Porch junior and my servant Samuel Tucker, to plant three young fresh codling trees in the granary garden about $\frac{3}{4}$ of a yard within 1 inch from the stakes of the hedge; as witness my hand Thomas Hewitt vicar.

General register, 1759-1809 (1427/8)

Underneath is an account of what customary fees are due to the vicar of Westbury as I received the account by word of mouth of William Bourne, my late clerk, whose father was clerk before him and whose uncle John Bourne was sexton many years; all which persons received the tithes, offerings and fees of this parish many years and especially for my predecessor, Mr William Wroughton vicar. John Bourne sexton told me so with his own mouth, for he died after I became vicar in less than half a year after his old master Mr William Wroughton in the manner following what were customary fees of the church and confirmed by my late clerk William Bourne who was brought up from a child by the late Mr William Wroughton, vicar and consequently must know the right fees. This memorandum I make for the information of all my successors; and rather as some litigious men in the parish proposed that I should give up my marriage fee by licence of all persons who were taken up by the parish officers and compelled to marry and permitted all persons who had been formerly of this parish, poor or rich, who had left parish and died in other parishes, as there happened several instances of it in my time, to be buried without fee contrary to ancient usage of paying the vicar for breaking the ground and his attendance because, said they, I was excused paying to the poor rates on that account, when it was notoriously known that the vicarage was excused paying to the poor rates for above this hundred years on account of three houses built on the churchyard of Westbury, which were delivered to the parish officers and parishioners for to put their paupers in and there are two agreements in the parish books, one in Mr Hunton's time and one in Mr James Ivie's time, but, as this affair caused a Chancery suit between myself and the parish, I intend to please God to give for the use and information of all those that come after me a full account of that affair in some one of the register books. In the meantime this account of customary fees I did not insert into this book not until I had received them from 14th Nov 1749, the day I was inducted, to 21st Jul 1760, as witness my hand Thomas Hewitt vicar of Westbury:

For every woman that is churched at Westbury, Bratton and Dilton 6d.

For every marriage by banns at Westbury, Bratton or Dilton 2s 6d and ever since the Marriage Act [1753] took place for writing the notices for publication of banns raised to 1s more which makes it 2s; which last 1s I give to the clerks for their trouble of writing the notices for publication.

For every marriage fee by licence 10s has always been paid as the fee so that if any woman dwelling or inhabiting in the parish of Westbury or the chapelries goes and is married in the man's parish I am paid 10s and has been paid by all

the parties that have not been married by me: This demand was paid before my time and has been paid by all the parties that have not been married by me in one of the three churches; the list of whose names are here annexed who have paid me:

17 Sep 1750 received of Philip Blatch of Pengate 10s for his marriage fee with Sarah Hill of Westbury Leigh from Chivers farm; they had their licence from Trowbridge but were married at some other parish.

John Hooper of White Cross a blacksmith and a daughter of Eleanor Eyres widow of Pengate were married, as they said at Bishop Stow [*?Bishopstrow*], both of the chapelry of Dilton, paid me 10s for the fee 23 Feb 1751.

Mrs Elizabeth Beverstock was married from Mr Coles the tanner and his niece in Westbury town at Coulston to Mr Britain, a baker at Devizes, and paid me the fee 28 Mar 1751, which fee 10s as witness my hand Thomas Hewitt vicar of Westbury.

Dec 1752 Philip Drewitt and one Hooper, both living at Bratton, were married by licence, but 11 Jan 1753 paid me 10s, the marriage fee.

This year Henry Greenland was married to Christian Barnes of Hawkeridge, by licence, at North Bradley; paid me 10s but by William Bourne clerk returned them 5s.

7 Jun 1754 Edward Self of Trowbridge married at Trowbridge one Tamsin Williams of Westbury and I was paid 10s, but returned 5s.

11 Nov 1755 received of Mr Samuel Edwards of Westbury the sum of 10s for his sister in law Mrs Jane Turner's marriage, she being married by Mr Shergold at Cheverill to one Mr Amor of them parts.

If a man residing in my parish and a woman in any other parish and be published in the church on the man's demanding a certificate to be married in the woman's parish, whether Westbury, Bratton or Dilton, he pays and it was customary always so to do to the vicar of Westbury; his marriage fee 2s 6d and for the certificate 1s, in all 3s 6d, and the fee and demand is the same and always paid if the woman, should she be of Westbury parish, and the man of any other parish. Of this I could give a great many instances of persons who have paid it and was never refused nor gave a certificate without it. I could give a great number of instances every year since I have been vicar of Westbury to this 13th Oct 1760 of the fee and sum being paid but hope the above will be a sufficient direction for my successors to walk by on this head.

When I marry any person by licence for the licence and marriage fee the vicar, since that additional duty of 1s upon every marriage bond, is paid £1 17s; before I used to be paid £1 16s and this was the sum my predecessor was paid, as his sister and the clerk sexton and others told me. Nay there are in the Poors' books or at least should be, several instances of the overseers who have paid me the £1 16s as William Ball butcher of Leigh, when he was some years ago overseer when James Harman labourer and Sarah Truelock were married by the parish. I say it would be found there if such articles be preserved and Mr Humphrey Whitaker of Bratton overseer of the poor paid me for licence and fee for the marriage of Francis Merret of Edington and Mary Prior of Bratton the sum of £1 17s 27 Feb 1760.

For searching register at Westbury it is always 1s and so it should be at Bratton

or Dilton, but I leave that to the clerks there; I have since been paid for the chapel register searching several times 1s a time for myself. Mr Wroughton and self used to give William Bourne clerk for help tithing the wool, which it had been usual to take in kind, the shilling asking money as a gratuity for his trouble and for assisting me in collecting offerings and other tithe, but since the late Marriage Act of parliament the shilling raised for asking keep myself as I publish the people myself and the clerks have 1s for writing the notices for the people in order to the publication, and this I allow them, though at Westbury I write the notice myself for helping me collect my tithes. > Since 25 Dec 1772 the clerk again writes all the notices for publication<.

Underneath is an account of what burial fees are due to the vicars of Westbury. A material affair this is for every vicar to know: As when the parish forced by a summons from Thomas and William Phipps esqs, two Justices of the Peace living in Westbury Leigh, to pay to the poors' rates; (though the vicars were always excused from paying to the poors' rates on account of three houses built on the churchyard of Westbury, which they had formerly yielded up to the parishioners of Westbury for the use of the paupers to inhabit). I filed a bill in Chancery against the parish officers and paupers for the houses and the officers, by the persuasion of some persons, brought a cross bill against me for taking as they pretended in . . . burial fee of some people buried in the church which of right belonged to . . .

The first instance I shall produce is of Mrs Dimon, my wife's mother who informed me before I married her daughter, that 6s 8d was due to me as vicar . . . she had been employed by Taylor Drewitt of Rotten Rows widow to desire Mr Wroughton, then vicar of Westbury, to let her bring from Colsons Marsh Mary Taylor widow, her mother, viz Mary Drewitt's mother, and bury in Westbury churchyard and be favourable to her in the fee as she was a poor widow. Mr Wroughton told Mrs Dimon 6s 8d was his customary fee for persons who died out of the liberties of the parish whether parishioners or not and he expected to be paid it and Mrs Dimon did pay it for Mrs Drewitt and it was left to his option that he would give a present out of it to Mrs Drewitt. Now this was a confirmation that John Bourne sexton Nov 1749 and William Bourne clerk told me concerning this burial fee; so underneath are whom I made pay for burial fee 6s 8d in the churchyard notwithstanding they and their ancestors formerly dwelt in Westbury parish and lie buried in the churchyard.

Sep 1750 I received of Dr Edwards of Bath for burial fee of Elizabeth Beard his servant, who was brought in a hearse 3s 4d in part of the fee here was a hot dispute about this fee and Mr Edward Pierce of Westbury said it should be paid to me; if on leaving it to Mr Talman, the official of the Chantor's court he should give it to me; but it never came to a hearing; for it being supposed that this Elizabeth Beard came by some untimely end and that through Dr Edwards' procurement stopped two or three days the corpse from being buried until the Coroner set on the body which he did and Dr Edwards falling to decay in life, I could proceed no further in this affair.

2 Feb 1751 I received for breaking up of ground in Dilton chapel yard for the burial fee of John Pyet, an Anabaptist, who died at Trowbridge 6s 8d, notwithstanding he was then possessed of a house and orchard in Westbury

Leigh called Pyets or Beltons for which he paid me 1s 6d for tithes fruit.
Feb 1754 received for the burial fee 6s 8d of Mrs Mansel, brought from Bath and buried in Westbury churchyard.

4 Dec 1759 received of William Gunstone of Heywood 6s 8d for the burial fee and breaking up the ground in Westbury churchyard for his daughter Rachel, who died at Bath, notwithstanding the family is buried here; she having lived about . . . years at Mrs Beaches of Keevil and lies buried near Mrs Mary Ford's husband's tomb.

Sep 1750 there was one out of Corsley parish, name I did not make a memorandum buried in Dilton chapel yard and paid me. > Her name was Sarah wife of Joseph Silcocks; she lived in Chapmanslade on Corsley side in a house below The Three Horseshoes<.

2 Jul 1758 Gideon Fricker of Brook brought his sister from Standerwick and buried her in Dilton chapel yard and paid me 6s 8d.

These are all that have been buried in the churchyards of this parish who died out of its liberties and have paid me since I have been vicar to 2 Mar 1761; witness my hand Thomas Hewitt.

The underneath are the names of those persons who paid me 6s 8d for breaking up the ground and attendance in Westbury church whose ancestors have . . . been buried there time immemorial, or if their ancestors have been buried in the church yet if they have quitted Westbury parish entirely and gained a settlement from here and died out of the precincts of it [I] am paid notwithstanding the burial fee.

Richard Hadman, Mrs Hannah Phipps' of Heywood coachman, who died at Mr Edmund Bayley's, apothecary in Westbury town, and at the desire of Heywood family paid me 6s 8d, none of his family ever were buried in the church; he was buried 17 Nov 1752.

I received 6s 8d for Richard Holloway, son of William Holloway of Westbury buried in the church in or about the year 1753 and for Richard Tyley senior who died here and for the three persons above 6s 8d each, though they died in the parish for permitting the . . . to be opened in the church for their burials, because it appeared none of their families were ever buried here and for such as were not parishioners . . .

Permission to open the ground for and attending and performing the burial service of Ann wife of Samuel Clift, who died at the Red Lion in Warminster and was buried 26 Mar 1754 near the font in Westbury church: And I received the like fee for permission to open the ground for and attending and performing the burial service at the burial of<Hannah> >Henrietta is Mrs Seymour's true christian name< Seymour wife of Edward Seymour esq of Woodlands in the county of Dorset who was buried in the parish chancel in a brick grave near to Mr Phipps of Leigh; she was a near relation of Governor Phipps of Heywood; the present Thomas Phipps of Heywood, though she was one of the Heywood family refused her being buried in the aisle; she was buried 3 Mar 1757.

Memorandum the wife of Edward Seymour esq above on some Chancery suit in the family was made evident to me that it should be Henrietta by several

gentlemen who came and searched the register for her name; it could not be altered after that Chancery suit began. I entered the name John Newman the sexton gave me and so in my answer to Mr Barker churchwarden and the parishioners' cross bill against me in 1759, and put her down Henrietta Seymour, but now her name must stand, though her true name was Henrietta. Sarah House bound apprentice to Thomas Rundall of North Bradley broadweaver by Robert Tucker and William Bourne churchwarden 1728; there is an indenture in the parish chest discovers this and the use intended to be made of this observation was this: that it was supposed that this Sarah House was the daughter of widow House who was a pauper put into the vicar's house in the churchyard by the parishioners and this her daughter out of that same house in the churchyard was bound apprentice by the parishioners and consequently in possession (at the time of her apprenticeship) of the parishioners and that this was the house on the churchyard next the Church house, which Mr James Ivie vicar allowed for the use of the parish poor on account of his being excused from paying to the poors' rate as mentioned in an parish poor rate book now in the church chest; on which agreement I began the Chancery suit for the recovery of this house against Mary Hurne widow and Jonathan Mason, who had purchased Jordan Slade's, which was delivered by Mr James Ivie for the use of the poor of the parishioners of Westbury on his being excused also from paying the poors' rates, was the house of one Thomas Tanner, an ancestor of Melior Slade, wife of Jordan Slade; the said Melior was Melior Tanner, a grand daughter of Robert Tanner aforesaid, but as the houses were delivered up to me by Henry Barker churchwarden, Thomas Bullock overseer and many more parishioners, I never thought it necessary to examine any further into the above Sarah House's indenture, whether she was bound an apprentice by the said officers out of this said Mary Hurne's house or no, but I leave this memorandum in case any more disputes on this head arise as witness my hand Thomas Hewitt vicar.

See below for the memorandum made in the large folio poor rate book between Mr James Ivie vicar of Westbury and the paymasters of the parish and at a full vestry held 28 Jul 1690 were near 60 paymasters signed the agreement to excuse Mr Ivie paying to the poor for allowing three houses built on Westbury churchyard; as therein is expressed, depend on it that memorandum is true though it is to be observed when the houses were delivered up to me 6 Sep 1759, in the vicar's possession this alteration was made 8 Sep 1759, by Revd Granville Wheler, Thomas Phipps of Leigh esq, Thomas Hewitt vicar, Paul Phipps of Leigh, Henry Barker innholder, esqs, Philip Withers of Westbury and Edward Peirce, lawyer and John Newman sexton and no other person was present. Memorandum we whose names are under written are willing to discharge Mr James Ivie our present minister from the rates to the poor, so long as he shall allow, as now he does, the three houses built on the churchyard now in the possession of Robert Tanner, Edward Lydiard and the Widow House, for the use of the poor of the parish, being what was formerly granted to Mr Hunton in the year 1652 and have been so continued as far as we know or have heard ever since; witness our hands this 28 Jul 1690: Jeffery Blatch; Samuel Gibbs; Edmund Bayley; Thomas Whatley; John Humphreys; William Clift; Philip Wilkins; Thomas Edwards; Edward Wilkins junior;

Benjamin Noreway; Edward Wilkins senior; Walter Smith; Edward Bayley; Henry Belton; Stephen Hill; Henry Belton senior; Benjamin Buckler; Michael Goddeard; Nathaniel Bayley; Zachery Bayley; Richard Biggs; Edward Patient; Francis Bayley; Robert Hooper; Stephen Whatley; Francis Pashant; Richard Green; John Whatley; Stephen Blatch; William Crouch mayor; Nicholas Coward constable; Thomas Fricker, John Wilkins churchwardens; Robert Wherett constable; Francis Merrett, Roger Snelgrove churchwardens of Bratton; Steven Hevil overseer of Bratton; Francis Pain overseer at Leigh; May Hill ch[apel]warden; William Barton senior; Robert Couch; John Blatch; William Reeves; William Barton junior; Jeremiah Holloway; Paul Phipps; William Adlam; Thomas Briggs; John Phipps; John Whatley; Philip King (X); John Croome; Thomas Coles; James Blatch; William Whitaker; Henry Burgis; William Ballard. [*Original WSA 548/12*]

The above memorandum and the evidences to it was taken out of the overseers' poor book now in the parish church chest of Westbury in the vestry room; for having the book in my possession I took counsel's opinion upon it as see the case stated by my brother and Mr Evan's opinion which I have wrote on the next page. From the year 1751 I had been often threatened to be rated to the poor; in 1753 was rated by William Phipps esq myself being sick at that time, but after was struck off the rates again. I had never given any provocation wilfully or designedly only insisting on my tithes which in some respect I was easier in then Mr William Wroughton, my predecessor, was; but the greatest inward vexation to the persons who would make me pay to the poors' rates was my refusing to ask it as a favour, always insisting that the houses above named were an equivalent to the poor rate and if they would put me as they ought to do, into the possession of the houses, I would pay the rates. But I always received for answer; they had nothing to do with the houses and they would make me pay the poors' rates, except I would give up my 10s marriage fee, which the overseers used to pay me for licence marriages of parish poor: This I could never be brought to consent to, still saying the houses were equivalent and would do no other then my predecessors had done. At length after many disputes I was served with a summons by James Clift of Westbury constable, a civil man, 1758, sent from Thomas and William Phipps esqs of Westbury Leigh, two Justices of the Peace, to show cause why I did not pay the poors' rates; on which I paid the rates these two justices' fathers and they themselves had been continual and implacable enemies to Mr Wroughton, my predecessor, a great many years, and so they were to me, and had rated him to the poor a great many times, but he got off again. One Robert Carpenter of Westbury was overseer, whose mother lately rented the parsonage, was another busy man and always was a chief promoter of this disturbance; to be short Jan 1759 . . . a bill for the recovery of the houses against the churchwardens, overseers of the poor and the occupiers of the houses as may be seen in our bills and answers which I have wrote in this book for the information of those who succeed me in the vicarage; as witness my hand 11 Jan 1762 Thomas Hewitt vicar of Westbury. We do allow the vicarage to be excused from the poor rate in lieu of the three houses as is expressed on the other side; witness our hands John Matravers, Jeffrey Gawen, William Band, John Gawen.

The above account is wrote on the opposite page of the poor book which is taken notice of and was signed by these four persons in the year 1690; they were Quakers all of them as their friends told me and though not present at the vestry when the rest agreed with Mr Ivie to discharge him from poor's rates for the use of his three houses, yet by writing and signing the above it seems to be done according to their good liking.

Underneath you have a good account of what writings and books Mr Samuel Edwards churchwarden had out from the parish chest about the year 1752 that were of any value. Left after it was broken open in the year 1747:

The account book of Richard Whitaker and Roger Passion churchwardens for the year 1546 and continued by several churchwardens to the year 1633.

The account book of the overseers begun 1659 and ends 1686.

The overseers book begun in the year 1687 and continued to 1705 at one end and at the other end the choice of officers is continued to the year 1709; Mr James Ivie and Mr Gordon being vicars; and in this book is the above memorandum on last page which the parishioners agreed in the year 1690.

The counterpart of Thomas Broadrib's grant to the poor of Dilton; witness Stephen Jones.

The counterpart of the trustees deeds to the poor of Dilton; witness Stephen Jones.

The last deed is the same as the charity table in Dilton chapel and put into Westbury chest by Mr James Ivie vicar; this estate lies at Beckington.

The counterpart of the lease of the Clocklands to Edward Pashion 1696.

My lord Marlborough's conveyance and terrier of the Clocklands 11 Chas I [1635/6].

The other part of my lord Marlborough's deeds of the Clocklands 11 Chas I [1635/6].

Two indentures of lease of the Church house, one 6Eliz [1563/4], the other 23 Eliz [1579/80]; from William Benett to the churchwardens; this William Benett was chantor of Sarum, but how he came to grant a lease of a church house which was supposed to be built on the churchyard seemed to me at first strange and indeed it appeared stranger to me that Dr Arthur Ashley Sykes, late chantor, should grant a lease for 40 years for a house to Mr William Wroughton vicar, built on the churchyard paying the vicar for the time being for the house and garden 5s 6d a year lords rent, which I have been paid by his sister's husband Stillingfleet of Salisbury, 12 years, 5 Apr 1761; this house adjoins to the backside of the house and brewhouse belonging to Lord Abingdon's Arms.

William Tanner's lease of the Clocklands in the reign of James II; he was sexton.

These writings and books are still in the church chest and are the poor remains of what I could ever be permitted to see; Mr Wroughton let his key of the parish chest go in 1747 and then the chest was robbed of all that was valuable and keys all lost when I became vicar 14 Nov 1749. Entered this account 21 Jan 1762; witness my hand Thomas Hewitt.

In the year 1765 consulting some lawyers and registrar of the chantor's court of Sarum I found that the chantor as patron of the vicarage and the vicar

have the power to make leases for three lives or a term of years; and the lease shall be of those houses and lands which are rather a parcel of the manor than the glebe; and have been used to be granted time immemorial, paying the usual reserved rent to the succeeding vicars: And this through the powers granted them by the enabling Act made in the 23rd year of king Henry VIII [1530/31], and by some other acts made in that reign and Queen Elizabeth's. So I see Dr Sykes had power with the vicar's consent to make a lease for 3 lives of Sweetland's and Naish Newman's for a term of 40 years, for the Church house next the gate and the garden belonging to it. Sweetland's etc fell into my hands in the year 1764 and I rebuilt it new in the year 1765 and leased it, by the consent of the chantor, for three lives to Mr John Dimon under the payment of 7s 6d a year to the future vicars, which is the old reserved lords rent paid to me for the same from the year 1749 to 1765; and Mr Wroughton, who had granted that lease with Dr Sykes' consent, was paid the same reserved rent and no more. Witness my hand Thomas Hewitt vicar.

29 Sep 1770 I leased the church house to Mr John Dimon for a term of 40 years together with the garden with consent of William Herring DD, chantor of Sarum and dean of St Asaph, according to the ancient practise and custom of former chantors and vicars and have reserved the usual lords rent of 5s 6d pa payable to the next vicar half yearly at Michaelmas and Ladyday, which is the same reserved rent that was ever paid, to any vicar, as I was told and found it true from the confirmation to Mr Wroughton in the chantor's office at Sarum. I never received of Mr Stillingfleet, a proctor in Salisbury who married Mrs Susanna Wroughton, executrix of her brother William Wroughton vicar, [more] than 5s 6d a year for upwards of 19 years, myself and no more than 5s 6d a year had been paid for this house in the time of Mr James Ivie vicar; witness my hand Thomas Hewitt vicar.

25 Dec 1770 received of William Whitaker junior of Bratton maltster 6s 8d for the burial fee of John Drewitt who died suddenly at South Down farm in the parish of Edington and was buried in Bratton churchyard. Thomas Hewitt.

1 Jan 1771 received of Mr William Tree of Beckington in Somerset 6s 8d for my fee and attendance on him to Bratton to bury his wife in Bratton chancel on 5 Aug 1770; her maiden name was Elizabeth Ballard, daughter of the late Mr Jonathan and Susanna Ballard of Bratton and she lies buried with her parents in Bratton chancel. Thomas Hewitt vicar.

16 Jan 1771 received of Sweetland of Frome Selwood, Somerset 6s 8d, the burial fee of his father farmer John Sweetland who lived and died at Frome, he was buried in Bratton churchyard in the grave with his father, old John Sweetland, who lived and died at his own house next the White Horse [Inn] in Bratton; the Sweetland who paid me the 6s 8d was one of the sons of this John Sweetland of Frome, which I buried 16 Jan 1771. Thomas Hewitt vicar.

29 Jun 1771 received of Mrs Elizabeth Whitaker 6s 8d for the burial fee of her late husband Mr William Whitaker, my churchwarden, whose father William Whitaker and his uncle John and all their ancestors lie buried at Edington; he is the first of this family of Whitakers, as he told me himself as far as he knew, that was ever buried at Bratton, either in the church or churchyard; he lies buried under his own seat in the church on the south

side of the pulpit in a brick grave made on purpose; he was buried 18 Feb 1771. Thomas Hewitt vicar.

7 Nov 1771 received for the burial fee of Samuel Sweetland of Frome Selwood, son of the late farmer John Sweetland of Frome Selwood, buried on last page, 6s 8d; this youth aged about 11 years old was buried in Bratton churchyard and supposed to be killed by a wagon, but not certain, had the coroner's inquest. Thomas Hewitt vicar.

5 Jun 1772 Miss Elizabeth Ballard Tree aged 1 year 10 months buried with her mother this day in Bratton chancel. Mrs Elizabeth Tree who was buried on the last page. This infant died at Beckington, Somerset and her father Mr William Tree promised to pay me this day; he would call upon me and pay me the 6s 8d for my attendance to bury his daughter. 13 May 1773 received of Mr Tree the sum of 6s 8d for my attendance to bury his daughter 5 Jun 1772. Thomas Hewitt vicar.

I buried Thomas Pepler blacksmith of Bratton 24 Nov 1775 in the church of Bratton; he lies in the cross wing of the church near the wall in the north end wing; his brother Walter Pepler's family lie on the outside of the wall in the churchyard as you may see by a stone in the wall of the church in the north end on the outside; and I buried their father Henry Pepler in the churchyard and all the family of the Peplers lie in the churchyard but Thomas Pepler being sick of a flux a long time I visited him in his sickness and he asked me on one of the visits I made him in his sickness before his wife to be buried in the church, paying me a fee of 6s 8d; thus in his lifetime he promised me voluntarily and of his own accord 6s 8d before his wife for leave to be buried in the church which sum I received 24 Nov 1775, of Thomas Pepler's widow; witness my hand Thomas Hewitt vicar.

25 Jan 1787 received of Margaret Holloway by the hands of Henry Newman deputy sexton 2s 6d for leave to put a coffin stone flat on the ground on her son Alexander Withy aged 17 years, buried in Westbury churchyard opposite the bakehouse 26 Mar 1788, by her husband Alexander; I say received by me Thomas Hewitt vicar of Westbury.

Hewitt is certainly the most prolix of all incumbents encountered in this research; verbose and repetitive; and yet worth publishing in full because of the details he provides about his parishioners, for whom he is a unique source. An account of the the recurring matter about the dispute over the houses in the churchyard is written in the vestry book, 1734-1844 [2223/2]. As with his informative embellishments to the burial entries in the register of Dilton, also kept by him, a selection from this Westbury register are included below; some of these and several more have been published [on fiche] by Wilts Family History Society in Westbury Parish Registers, burials, 1559-1837.

2 Aug 1760 buried Melior, wife of Jordan Slade, whose maiden name was Tanner, which Slade sold the vicarage house next the mill pond at Westbury to Jonathan Mason, who I sued and the parish officers for in Chancery and this was one of the houses delivered up to me by the parish after I was rated to the poor and paid the rates, the parish having it formerly for the use of their poor on account of the vicarage not paying to the poor rates.

12 Sep 1762 buried John Syms of Westbury town, keeper of the Chalford turnpike gate.

13 Sep 1762 buried Samuel Sweetland, son of Grace Kitty by the late Samuel

Sweetland, a poor boy, who was shot Tues 6 Sep in the street below the vicarage house by one William Bigwood, a youth of about 17 years of age; he languished until Sun 12 instant, and was buried on Monday evening late. 8 Mar 1763 buried James Collins, aged 83, of Chalford, but lived about a year at Seend and there died; his cousin paid for breaking up the ground in Westbury churchyard; 6s 8d notwithstanding he had 2 or 3 tenements in Westbury which he died possessed of in Chalford; but he had left the parish. 1764 buried Mrs Catherine Rendall; lived several years at Melksham and died there, but in 1750 she lived at Fuges in Westbury Leigh and kept the sign of the Sun there; but her family were Westbury parish people and are buried here and so she was in Westbury churchyard with her head to the east end of the chancel and her feet towards the pitching. Her brother in law paid for breaking up of the ground 6s 8d.

22 Sep 1766 buried Thomas son of John and Martha Marchant of Leigh. This man died of the wound he received by a shot in his head in his attempt with the rioters to pull down Beckington mill, Somerset. *See WRS vol 36 for details of the inquest.*

27 Oct 1766 buried Edward Hayward, a kind of cannibal man, had eat some horse flesh raw and never well after it; had 2 or 3 bastards by Jane Arnol; his father was hanged some years ago at Salisbury for the murder of one Bayly of Westbury.

6 Nov 1766 buried James, son of James and Ann Tree of Heywood; died of a putrid fever; he was took on Friday, died on Monday and buried on Thurs in the vestry room at the upper end of the table against the wall, being the first of the family buried in the church. I received of Mr James Tree the customary burial fee for his son's burial 6s 8d.

5 Apr 1769 buried Mrs Elizabeth Andrews widow; she had a daughter Elizabeth by Samuel Yeo esq; she removed from Westbury and lived and died in Bath; she was buried within the communion rails on the north side of the chancel, aged 61 8 months or near it, and I was paid 6s 8d by her daughter by the hands of Mr John Mackey 12 Jun 1769 for my attendance.

30 Aug 1771 Mr Edward Pearce, attorney at law of Trowbridge, buried in the grave of his late mother in law Mrs Wilkins of Leigh mills, in the church; I received 6s 8d of his widow by hand of Mr R Davis, Trowbridge, undertaker, for fee and attendance; he brought the cross bill in chancery against me to throw me out of the burial fee by the direction of the parish, but the fee and the houses were given up to me both together, 6 Sep 1759. Mr Pearce himself paid me the fee freely and heartily for his son.

21 Oct 1769 Mrs Lydia Beare of Crewkerne [Somerset], whose mother was a Napier, whose father a younger son of the Napiers of Tintinhull; an aunt to Mrs Hewitt [*the vicar's wife*], aged 68, had lived with them for more than 20 years; buried with her sister Dimons, and my two sons in the brick grave in the parish chancel with Mrs Ivie, a former vicar's wife.

22 Jan 1770 buried Ann, daughter of Mr Thomas and Elizabeth Gaisford, who had leave from her sister, now Mrs Ann Lewis, to bury their daughter in the vestry room in the grave with her son, Henry Whitaker, which she had by her first husband, William; but Mr Thomas Gaisford paid me 6s 8d: The first 6s 8d, paid me by Mrs Lewis, could not entitle her brother in law

to bury his daughter in church.

5 May 1774 buried Mary Nit, aunt to John Huntly who rents of Thomas Phipps esq of Leigh four farms viz Dilton farms, Grants farm on the hill and Coltons Croft, near 500 a year and 500 a year or near of William Bennet of Norton Bavant, and yet he and his cousin John Huntley, called Bacon Huntley, let their poor aunt Mary starve, though both rich men and to be kept by the parish and buried out of Westbury workhouse at the parish expense.

25 May 1775 Elizabeth Withiman, aged 19, servant to Revd Thomas Hewitt between 10 or 11 years, was a native of Ilminster, Somerset and died in the vicarage house of a fever, as we apprehended at first, but Mr George Randall, the apothecary, thought something was amiss in her inside and at last it proved to be an imposture in the lungs which broke and she cast up a deal of blood and corruption; she bore her sickness, though violent, with much patience, and sensible to the last between violent fits. She laboured under this dreadful disorder above three weeks.

16 Mar 1777 Mary Bayly, widow, aged 73, of Westbury Leigh, had the great bell rung out at 6 in the morning until 9 o'clock and after she was buried.

WEST DEAN

General register, 1679-1793 (3712/2)

List of rectors on cover: Walter Sloper MA; A[braham] Francke MA, 2 Jul 1714; W[illiam] Sterne MA, 2 Feb 1733; Edmund Yalden MA, Nov 1754; John Ray MA, 21 Apr 1761.

Baptism and burial register, 1779-1813 (3712/3)

The following particulars were sent on 28 Apr 1783 under cover to the bishop to Revd J[ohn] Howlett of Maidstone in answer to several questions proposed by this gentleman who is engaged in an enquiry into the state of the population of England and Wales. [*By William Gomm, rector*]

1. Totals of baptisms, marriages and burials;

1678-1707 136 baptisms, 13 marriages, 101 burials;

1730-1749 209 baptisms, 37 marriages, 128 burials;

1760-1779 136 baptisms, 48 marriages, 77 burials.

2. Number of inhabitants West dean, 185, including 20 servants and 1 apprentice; East Grimstead 118 including 6 servants and 2 apprentices. Total 303.

3. Quota furnished for the triennial service of the national militia, 1 man in 3 years.

4. Number of houses; West Dean 37, 1 empty; East Grimstead 35, 6 empty. Total 72.

5. Number charged to Window Tax and 3s House duty; West Dean 19; East Grimstead 10.

6. Number of families; West Dean 35; East Grimstead 21; total 56 including widowers and widows who have children; old married people who have never had any and such as have not had any for several years. There are, whose families may be said to be increasing, in West Dean 16, in East Grimstead 11. Enclosure; there were considerable enclosures made in the parish between 50 and 60 years ago.

Inoculation; has not been practised here in general, but many have been inoculated out of the parish and with the usual success.

Extract of a return to the bishop concerning the numbers of baptisms, marriages and burials in compliance with Population Act 1801.

1781-1790 baptisms; males 69, females 56; burials males 30, females 40.

1791-1800 baptisms; males 64, females 77; burials males 30, females 32.

1761-1780 marriages 49. 1781-1800 marriages 42.

Crop return for the parish, made by order of the Secretary of State, 25 Oct 1801: Wheat, 270 acres (Buck Wheat 4a); Barley, 271.2a; Oats, 107a; Potatoes, 5a; Peas, 23a; Beans, 6a; Turnip or Rape, 50a; Rye, 1a.

The influenza very prevalent throughout the kingdom and proved fatal in many places during the spring of 1803.

WEST GRIMSTEAD

General register, 1717-1765 (1988/1)

Memo the first Sunday after Easter 1745 I began to serve the cure of West Grimstead I[srael] V[anderplank].

Memo the first Sunday after old Michaelmas 1757 Mr J Johnes entered this curacy.

WEST HARNHAM

General register, 1567-1656 (1967/1)

A true copy of this book from the beginning hereof until 24 Mar 1608 for christenings, marriages and burials was delivered into the registry of the dean of Sarum by William Symkins, minister, Richard Thomas and John Gefery churchwardens of the parish of West Harnham by me William Collet, sriptorem exemplar huius libri registri. (*writer of the copy of this register book*)

Memo That whereas the burials, marriages and christenings were put down in several places of this book which caused 'troable' in the search for either of them in the year 1644 they began to be registered all together ...

Given by the parishioners of the church of West Harnham in the county of Wilts 15s 10d. Witness John Chappell minister.

General register, 1770-1800 (1763/3) *A rough book re-used as a registert*

'marey sheargold; henearey randell for worck feching 5 dayes 14th february macking fech steps: 47 steps 26 irley 2.

ienery 4 [*?January 4th*]: for mack fech stpes 04:2 ms shergold'. *Meaning unclear, c 1775.*

WEST KNOYLE**General register, 1718-1795 (2653/1)**

Whereas the house of Christopher Fricker of this parish of West Knoyle was on the night of 6th of January 1719 broken open and amongst other things then burnt, by the persons who committed the fact, the parish register book of births, burials and marriages, then in his custody, was then and there burnt and destroyed. The following account of the births of the children of William Willoughby esq lately deceased and Elizabeth his wife taken from a paper memorandum under the hand of the said William Willoughby was this 25 Apr 1721 inserted in this book before the following inhabitants of West Knoyle who were all well acquainted with the handwriting of the said William Willoughby and so do hereby attest the following entry of births of the said several children to be agreeable to the said paper memorandum under his hand viz; Elizabeth born 15 Feb 1692; Mary born 3 Aug 1693; Jane born 24 Feb 1695; Prudence born 28 Sep 1696; Edith born 21 Feb 1698; Harry born 22 Jan 1700. The following names are entered from the memory and knowledge of the inhabitants of the parish whose names are here subscribed viz; William born 22 Apr 1701; Harry born 17 Apr 1702; Richard born 10 Jun 1704; John born 21 Jan 1706; Blake born 30 Aug 1711. this entry was made the day and year above written by and attested by the inhabitants before me; Richard Rogers vicar of West Knoyle; John Hellier, Mathew Hickman, Christopher Fricker, Henry Moone.

WEST LAVINGTON**General register, 1598-1747 (746/1)**

Mr Thomas Byrom MA was chosen as parish register and sworn before William Yorke, 22 Sep 1653. *He was vicar and was buried 11 Feb 1657.*

William Etwall clerk [*vicar*] was chosen as parish register and sworn before William Yorke, 6 Apr 1657. *William Yorke was a parishioner and Justice of the Peace, whose burial on 13 Aug 1659 is recorded in this register; he would have been on hand to swear the candidates as soon as they were chosen.*

General register, 1804-1812 (746/4)

Memo: Be it remembered that on Mon 7 Oct 1816 was laid over Nash's water, below the mill, the foundations of a bridge built by subscription. On Friday following, being old Michaelmas day, it was, by divers witnesses then present observed and taken notice of, that from the level or surface of the water, perpendicularly upwards, to the spring or turn of the arch, there was the thickness of five courses of bricks in the clear; and on the south west corner, there was on the 4th brick, downwards from the arch, cut or inscribed the letters RS, and on the 5th brick, at the water's edge HP, being the initials of the names of Robert Sloper and Henry Phillpot, then present. There was also present the builders of the bridge and me J Williams curate of West Lavington; the writer or recorder of the above.

WESTPORT

General register, 1678-1795 (1589/47) *See also p 295.*

Anthony Davis came in as clerk, 1698.

James Tiley, Westport, shoemaker, paid 10s for a mortuary for Thomas Edmead, mason, buried 16 Jul 1705.

Receivers of the sacrament: Epiphany 6 Jan 1712; Nathaniel Mathewes B, Thomas Gingel 24, John Lewis, William Hudson, Anthony Chelton; Anthony Snow, John Brothers B.

4 May 1712; Mr Isaac Wayte senior, Mr Richard Dorman B, Mr James Tiley, B, Mr John Lewis, Mr John Brothers senior B, Mr John Mathewes B, Mr Anthony Chelton, Mr Robert Andrewes 24, Anthony Snow clerk. 5 Oct 1712; James Tiley A, Edward Fry, Thomas Cullurn DS, Nathaniel Mathewes, John Adye, Walter Woodman, Henry Webb, Richard Dorman, Thomas Keynes, James Packer, Richard Wythers, Joseph Hancock, John Mathewes, Anthony Chelton, Israel May, Anthony Snow.

28 Oct 1712 Thomas Cullurn DS, James Tiley A, Joseph Hancock CB, John Ady CB, James Packer CB, Richard Dorman CB, Nathaniel Mathewes CB, John Mathewes CB, John Brothers CB, John Freeman postmaster, Anthony Chilton, Farmer Tugwell, Anthony Snow clerk, John Lewis senior.

12 Apr 1713 James Tiley A, Thomas Cullurn, Richard Dorman, W Woodman, James Wayte, John Mathewes, John Brothers, Anthony Chilton, John Lewis senior.

31 May 1713; Thomas Cullurn DS, James Tiley A, Richard Dorman, Nathaniel Mathewes, Thomas Keynes, John Brothers, Isaac Wayte, John Mathewes, Anthony Chilton, Anthony Snow.

4 Oct 1713; Thomas Cullurn DS, Richard Dorman A, James Tiley DA, Edward Frye CB, Joseph Hancock CB, Thomas Gingell CB, Isaac Wayte, Richard Wythers, Mr Oliver Ivye rector of Bremilham, Thomas Keynes CB, Israel May. Gawen Hart, a 24, Nathaniel Mathewes CB, Walter Woodman, Henry Webb, John Brothers, Anthony Snow clerk.

Christmas 1713; Mr Richard Dorman A, Mr Thomas Cullurn DS, Mr James Tiley DA, Mr Ed Fry, Mr Joseph Hancock, Richard Wythers, Henry Webb, Walter Woodman, Thomas Keynes, Nathaniel Mathewes, all CB; John Brothers, Thomas Gingell, Israel May, Henry Gingell a 24, Anthony Chilton, Anthony Snow clerk, Mrs Amy Hanley, Mrs Calcott, Christopher Hanley vicar [of Westport].

4 Apr 1714; Richard Dorman A, James Tiley DA, Joseph Hancock CB, Richard Wythers, Henry Webb, Walter Woodman, Nathaniel Mathewes CB, Thomas Keynes CB, John Brothers CB, Israel May, John Lewis, Henry Gingell, Anthony Chilton, Anthony Snow, Mrs Hill, Mrs Beverley, Mrs Calcott.

23 May 1714; Richard Dorman A, James Tiley DA, Thomas Cullurn DS, Ed Fry CB, Joseph Hancock CB, Richard Wythers, Walter Woodman, Thomas Keynes, Henry Webb, Thomas Gingell, Nathaniel Mathewes,

John Brothers, Anthony Chilton, Mr Tugwell of Thornhill, Israel May, Anthony Snow clerk, I Reeves, Mrs Hill, Mrs Calcot, Mrs Amy Hanley, Mrs Tugwell, Mrs Maul, Mrs Garlick of Hyems, Mrs -.

1 Jan 1716; Nathaniel Mathewes A, Thomas Kaynes DA, Thomas Cullurn DS, Richard Dorman CB, James Tiley CB, Walter Woodman CB, Richard Collins CB, Henry Webb CB, John Brothers CB, Richard Wythers CB, John Lewis, Israel May, Henry Gingell, Anthony Chilton, Anthony Snow clerk.

8 Apr 1716; Nathaniel Mathewes A, Thomas Kaynes DA, Thomas Cullurn DS, James Tiley, Richard Dorman, Harry Webb, Walter Woodman, Israel May, Anthony Chilton, Henry Gingell, Anthony Snow.

16 Jun 1717; T Cullurn DS, J Brothers A, T Kaynes DA, Edmund Fry, N Mathewes, W Woodman, H Webb, J Tiley, R Dorman, G Hart, Israel May, John Lewis.

6 Oct 1717; Mr Thomas Kaynes A, Mr Nathaniel Mathewes DA, Mr Thomas Cullurn DS, Mr Edmund Fry, Mr H Webb, W Woodman, John Brothers, Mr James Tiley, Mr Richard Dorman, Mr William Collins, Mr Israel May, - Gingell, Anthony Chilton, Anthony Snow.

8 Jun 1718; Mr T Cullurn DS, Mr T Kaynes A, Mr N Mathews DA, Mr John Brothers, Mr Henry Webb, Mr James Tiley, Mr Richard Wythers, Mr W Woodman, Mr Gawen Hart, Mr John Lewis, Mr Charles Wallington, Mr Israel May schoolmaster.

28 Oct 1718; Mr Thomas Cullurn, Mr Webb A, Mr Mathewes, Mr J Tiley, Mr Wythers, Mr Woodman, Mr John Lewis, Mr Wallington, Absolem Tompson, Richard Knee, Israel May,

24 May 1719 Mr Thomas Cullurn, Mr Alderman Webb, Mr N Mathews Dep, Mr James Tiley, Mr Richard Wythers, Mr Walter Woodman, Mr John Lewis, Israel May, Harry Gingel, Anthony Chilton, Roger Gartrell clerk.

4 Jun 1721; Mr Thomas Cullurn DS, Mr Henry Webb A, James Browning a burgess for sessions oath, Mr James Tiley, Mr Richard Wythers, Mr Gawen Hart, Mr John Lewis, Richard Knee, Mr Joseph Ball, Isaac Self, a 24, for sessions oath, Mr Wallington DA.

Many of these names were members of the old corporation of Malmesbury borough. A is alderman, B burgess, D deputy, CB chief burgess, DS deputy steward, 24 one of the groups on the corporation, here one man representing the group.

WESTWOOD

General register, 1727-1812 (847/2)

Robert Harris clerk buried 12 Nov 1727.

William Loyd came in clerk of this parish 1727.

William Knap came in clerk of the parish and sworn 30 Nov 1765.

John Godwin junior was appointed clerk 23 Nov 1824 by Revd WB Cosens.

John Cottle appointed clerk Easter 15 Apr 1827 by Revd John Martin Longmire curate of Westwood. >Cottle the clerk pawned the ancient altar

plate and used to keep up the deception by borrowing the Wingfield plate for each sacrament Sunday, from the clerk there. When Cottle died no one could discover where the Westwood plate was; hence its disappearance. < *In a modern hand.*

WHITEPARISH

General register, 1560-1694 (830/1)

About 1642 Mr James Lynch gave to the parish Grayes Eye etc to maintain a free school; £10 pa.

Divers parcels belonging to the church:

White Poine, 4 acres, in Mr Eyre's possession; Philip's garden, St Mary's ham in Freeman's hands; the clerk's house worth now £7 pa; the church house; Woodwells and Abers in Edmund Fox his possession; a stitch of land in Maple field; a plot near Tichburne; a parcel in the Widow Downing's.

Memo that I Richard Page vicar and John Lynch gent and John Harry churchwardens let Phillip's garden and St Mary's ham viz a coppice and meadow, to Mr Giles Eyre for 25 years, which began 1647, and is to expire (as I take it) 1668, for money due to Mr Eyre. Richard Page vicar. This was done in Jan 1651.

1643 this year through the many tumults of war many that were christened were pretermitted. [ie omitted]

General register, 1668-1721 (830/2)

Incomplete copy of Quarter Sessions order about rogues and vagabonds and sturdy beggars, 1678. *See index*

Memo given by Edward Saint Barbe esq to the church a silver flagon and silver breadplate anno domini 1671 March the 8th or just a little before the time he made his last will and testament and delivered by Mary his wife about December 11th to the parish.

Francis Greene vicar, George Braxton, Richard Titford churchwardens. There belongs also to the church a pewter flagon, a silver chalice and a little piece of plate and a very fine Holland napkin to cover up the bread in by Mrs Fisher given to the church.

There are divers parcels of lands belonging to the fabric of the church for the upholding and repairing of the said fabric: White Poine, 4 acres, in Mr Giles Eyre's possession; Philip's garden, St Mary ham formerly in the possession of one Freeman; the clerk's house [*worth £7 in version in earlier version; see note*] or the new building lately repaired situate in the Green, called Hilgrove's in the Furse goe; the church house in the street; Woodwells and Abers formerly in Edmund Fox his possession; a stitch of land in

Maple field; a plot near Tichburne; a parcel of ground not long since in the Widow Downing's possession; Tristram Lights etc. *This schedule is in the previous register, all former occupiers listed here were then current.*

All this recorded in the former register book by Mr Richard Page sometimes vicar of the parish. Taken out by Francis Greene vicar 5 May 1674.

Stephen Page schoolmaster buried 1 Apr 1713.

General register, 1719-1795 (830/3)

Entries of christenings, burials and marriages made in the register book of Whiteparish in the county of Wilts from Oct 2 1783 to Oct 1 1784: christenings 21 at 3d 5s 3d; burials 18, 4s 6d; marriages 5, 1s 3d. Total 11s; deducted at 2s per pound 1s 1d. Total 9s 11d. William Watson curate. *Collected under the Stamp act 1783.*

General register, 1783-1812 (830/4)

Number of houses and number of inhabitants in Whiteparish taken Jan 1784; houses 197; inhabitants 847.

A hard frost set in Dec 11th 1783 and continued till Feb 23rd 1784 and many melancholy accidents happened such as people being buried in snow; it continued snowing for 28 hours; and on the river Trent only four saved out of ninety the ice let them in and all was drowned; and the week following nine school boys fell in above Richmond bridge and all drowned likewise.

WHITSBURY

Transferred to Hampshire in 1895.

General register, 1714-1750 (HRO 43M68/PR1)

Revd Mr Thomas Durnford, born at Whitsbury, 6 Jan 1681 [1682 NS], and died at Rockbourne, 18 Jul 1747, aged 65. He was minister of Rockbourne and Whitsbury 42 years. He was a learned and man of extensive knowledge, both as a magistrate and a divine, and of a public spirit. In his time he rebuilt both the parsonage houses and by his direction the churches of each place were new seated and repaired, and the chancels done at his own expense. He was much lamented by all that knew him for his great command and evenness of temper. He left behind a wife and 12 children.

No entries of marriages, christenings or burials have been made since the above date [9 May 1780], owing to the neglect of Revd John Morgan curate until the year 1800, who was curate of Rockbourne and Whitsbury upwards of 30 years.

In this church, by the remains of his late wife, lies the body of Charles Delafaye esq, who died 11 Dec 1762, aged 86. He was 40 years (in several employments) a faithful, diligent and disinterested servant to the Crown; joint secretary to the Lord Lieutenant of Ireland, in the second year of George I [1714-1715],

appointed in that year while his majesty was in Hanover.

General register, 1779-1812 (HRO 43M68/PR2)

Table of fees: banns of marriage publishing, clergyman 1s, clerk 6d; certificate of banns, clergyman 2s, clerk 6d; marriage by banns, clergyman 5s, clerk and sexton 2s 6d; marriage by licence, clergyman 10s, clerk and sexton 5s; churching, clergyman 1s; burial fee, clergyman 2s 6d, clerk 1s.

Digging grave, according to size, sexton; breaking ground for a non parishioner £1 1s; single brick grave or vault £2 2s; opening brick grave for another burial £1 1s; double brick vault according to size £5 5s to £10 10s; small headstone under 2ft high, 18in wide 5s; over 2ft high, 18in wide 10s 6d; double size £1 1s; small footstone 5s; flatstone over single grave 10s 6d; flat stone over double grave £1 1s; wooden rail 2s 6d.

Tomb or monument in churchyard (single) £3 3s, (double) £5 5s; opening a vault each time £2 2s.

In the church: small mural tablet £3 3s; large or double tablet £5 5s; hatchment in church £5 5s.

Copies of sundry monuments in the body of Whitsbury church:

Sacred to the Memory of Peter Templeman esq (late of this Parish) who died the 5th July 1824, aged 65; also of Elizabeth Templeman (wife of the above) who died the 13th December 1820, aged 67 years.

Copies of sundry monuments within the chancel of Whitsbury church:

Here lyeth the body of Mrs Margaret Star of this parish who dyed the 17th of August 1675.

In Memory of John Star of this parish gent who dyed 4th of May 1673 aged 42 years, and of Mary, his wife, who dyed 1st of April 1723, aged 92 years.

M 1783. The flat stone marked thus probably covers the grave of Revd John Morgan, who was curate of Whitsbury and Rockbourne for upwards of 30 years from 1747 He died aged 70 and was buried 23 Oct 1783.

On the south side of the Lord's table is a flat stone with inscription nearly obliterated; 'Here lyeth the body of Mrs Eliz Hoby [perhaps Holloway] of this parish'. The rest obliterated but on the same stone untraced; 'Mr Jos Darny of this parish who dyed Sept 23' (again the remainder is lost).

The paten and chalice used in the administration of the lord's supper were the gifts of John and Mary Star and have on them the following inscriptions; On the paten, 'The gift of John Starr died ye 24 of Maye 1673'. On the chalice, 'MS ye 25th of Maye 1673'

Whitsbury [census] 1784:

Occupiers of Estates	Owners	No
Thomas White farmer	Lord Shaftesbury	himself, wife & servants 5
Nicholas White shepherd	Lord Shaftesbury	himself & wife 2
Ann Randall widow	Mrs Elliott	herself 1
Thomas Morgan labourer	Joseph Carpenter	himself, wife & 2 children 4

Mrs Rooke widow	Her own	herself, 4 daughters & 8 servants	13
Thomas Geare labourer	His own	himself, wife, 1 daughter, 1 grandchild	4
John Major farmer	His own	himself, wife, 1 daughter, 1 servant	4
George Roberts labourer	John Major	himself & wife	2
Richard Masters carpenter	His own	himself, wife, 1 servant	3
Thomas Roberts labourer	Joseph Carpenter	himself, wife 4 children	6
Nicholas White labourer	Joseph Carpenter	himself, 3 children	4
John Tewksbury gardener	Mr William Talk	himself, wife, 1 child	3
John Earney labourer	His own	himself, wife, 5 children	7
William Welch labourer	Joesph Carpenter	himself, wife, 6 children	8
Mathew Mustle labourer	Mr John Monkton	himself, 1 son	2
Richard Wilkins labourer	John Viney	himself & wife, 5 children	7
James Young labourer	John Bryant	himself & wife	2
William Pippard farmer	His own	himself & wife	2
Henry Lawes farmer	Mrs Durnford	himself & 2 servants	3
Richard Roberts	- Roberts	himself, wife, 2 children	4
John Viney gardener			
to Lord Shaftesbury	His own	himself, wife & 4 children	5
Mary & Sarah Welch spinsters	Joseph Carpenter	themselves	2
Betty Bryant spinster	Joseph Carpenter	herself & 2 children	3
James Bryant labourer	John Major	himself, wife & 3 children	5

NB The parsonage house void 4 Nov 1784 Henry Longdon vicar Total 99

WILCOT

General register, 1564–1694 (1739/1). *Register begun in 1605 by William Palmer, vicar, who copied up the earlier entries. He served the parish until his death in 1653; buried 20 May*

‘Terque quaterque beati, Omnes

Qui scripti libro vitae Agni.’ *Three and four times blessed are all those written in this book of the Lamb’s life. The first phrase is from Vergil Aeneid 1 94.*

‘Nihil sic revocat a peccato quam frequens mortis meditation. Augustine.’ *Nothing restrains a man from sin than frequent contemplation of death.*

‘Mors resecat, mors omne necat, quod carne creatur.

magnificos permit et modicos: cunctis dominator:

Nobilium tenet imperium, nullumque veretur,

Tam ducibus quam principibus communis habetur.’

Death curtails, death kills what is created in flesh

It checks the mighty and the modest: it rules over all:

It holds sway over nobles, nothing is respected

It is held in common by both leaders and kings.

Carmen Paraeneticum Rainaldum Sect 892. *Author unknown but among the writings of Bernard of Clairvaux.*

Longius aut propius Mors sua quemque manet. *Sooner or later Death claims its own. Propertius Elegies Bk 2 p28 158. All these quotations were written on the title page by William Palmer, and are evidence of his learning, in spite of his not graduating from university, according to archbishop Abbott’s Exhibit book, 1613 [D1/53]*

'Tymes prohibyted from Marriage are these: From; Advent Sunday untill the 8th day after Twelfthide. Septuagesima Sunday untill the sonday after Easter. Rogation Sunday untill Trinitee sonday be past.'

General register, 1762-1783 (1739/3)

'Nor love thy Life, nor hate; but what thou liv'st Live well: how long or short permit to Heaven. Milton' [*Paradise Lost bk2 l 554-5*]

'As Adam all die even so in Christ all shall be made alive. St Paul' [*Corinthians 15 v22*]

Two quotations in Latin from Pliny bk 3 no3, bk5 ep4. All written on the cover of the register by John Mayo, vicar.

John Mayo LLB, rector of Beauchamp Stoke [*Beechingstoke*], was inducted into the vicarage of Wilcot 3 May 1762.

John Spencer's survey of the lands belonging to the vicarage of Wilcot in the parish of Stert: Enclosed lands; Matchem's orchard 2 rods 16 perches; Top's orchard 1 acre 2r 28p; meadow heading Mr Warriner's Long Lands 1a 3r 24p; Meadow below the same 1a; meadow on the north side of Mr Warriner's meadow 1a 2r 29p; Meadow below the above 1a 26 16p; Meadow below the Sand ground 1a 1r 1p; the Sand ground (arable) 1a 25p; total 10a 3r 19p: In the common field; Shoot acre 3r 6p; acre in Upper furlong, west side of Fry's 7 yards 3r 2p; acre west side of Mr Warriner's picked acre 3r; acre in Lower Furlong between Mr Warriner's acre and 3 acres 3r 7p; acre in east side of Lyne's 7 yards 3r 4p; acre in Upper furlong east side Mr Warriner's 2r 36p; total 4a 2r 15p. Total 15a 1r 32p.

The lands of which an account is given in the opposite page [*ie the previous note*] cost £400 of which £200 was given by the governors of Queen Anne's Bounty, and £200 by Francis Wroughton esq. The title deeds of this estate never came to my hands; I have therefore given this account of it to prevent any part of it from being embezzled. NB the quit rent to New College, Oxford is 6s 5½ d pa; the Land tax at 4s is £1 13s 11d. John Mayo vicar.

The deeds above referred to have been recovered. By these it appears that the estate was bought 18 Jan 1723 of Edward Topp esq of Stockton in the county of Wilts for £500, of which £200 was given by the governors of Queen Anne's Bounty and £300 by Francis Wroughton esq of this parish. T[homas] Marks vicar. *He was vicar from 1791.*

Memo 12 young elm trees were planted in the churchyard in Nov 1767 by Mr Mayo. Mr Mayo likewise planted 50 elms in the meadows belonging to the vicarage of Wilcot in the parish of Stert, and 30 willows and poplars in Nov 1765.

An account of the bounds round the churchyard of Wilcot: North side next to Mr Wroughton's stables; James Wroughton esq 10 perches; Henry Skryllyng

esq 6p; Thomas Brimsdon 1p; William Munday 1p; Mr Michael Wroughton 1p; The Freehold 1p; The parsonage 1p; The parish 1p and the wicket; next the wicket on the east side; James Andrews 1p; James Wroughton esq (for Pyke's) 1p; Roger Smith 1p; Widow Head 1p; Mr Michael Wroughton 1p; John Edmonds 1p; Mrs Massey 1p; Mr Francis Wroughton 1p; Mr Chapman 3p; Mr John Hillier 3p; ditto for Downhams 1p; Richard Stratton 1p; William Brimsdon 1p; James Wroughton esq 4p. Memo this account was taken from a parchment in the hands of farmer Thomas Edmonds 11 Jan 1765: John Mayo vicar.

General register, 1783-1812 (1739/4)

Memorandum this 17th day of July 1784: Mrs Wroughton having proposed to erect a new fence to the churchyard of Wilcot at her own expense, we whose names are underwritten do hereby declare our willing acceptance of her generous offer, at the same time disclaiming all rights and power of calling on her, her heirs or assigns to repair or make good the said fence or any part thereof in future further than she or they will be liable to be called on, if the proposed fence be not erected. And to the end that the several parts or shares of the said fence, with the repairing and keeping up of which the parish of Wilcot and several estates situate therein are chargeable, may be the more easily distinguished and ascertained, we have this day surveyed and measured the whole & found the length of the several parts or shares to be as follows, viz: the part which was formerly (see an account of the bounds round the churchyard of Wilcot in a former register of baptisms and burials); [*previous note*] charged to James Wroughton esq for the Home Farm now in the possession of Mrs Susanna Wroughton, widow of the late George Wroughton esq, and rented by William Coles, 64ft; Henry Skyleyng esq for Draycot farm now in the possession of Revd Mr Craven and rented by the Widow Puckridge, 42ft; Thomas Brimsdon for an estate now in the possession of Roger Stratton & occupied by him, 6ft 6in; William Munday for an estate now in the possession of Mrs Wroughton and rented by Roger Stratton, 5ft 8in; Mr Michael Wroughton for an estate now in the possession of the said Mrs Wroughton and rented by Roger Stratton, 6ft; the freehold now in the possession of Mrs Wroughton & rented by Roger Stratton, 5ft 3in; The parsonage now in the possession of Mrs Wroughton and rented by Roger Stratton, 116ft 3in; The Parish, 12ft 1in; James Andrews for an estate now in the possession of Thomas Winter and rented by Roger Stratton, 3ft 8in; James Wroughton esq for Pyke's for an estate now in the possession of Mrs Wroughton and rented by Roger Stratton, 3ft 11in; Roger Smith for an estate now in the possession of Mrs Wroughton & rented by Roger Stratton, 4ft; Widow Head for an estate now in the possession of John Stratton and occupied by him, 3ft 6in; Mr Michael Wroughton, John Edmonds, Mrs Massey, Mr Francis Wroughton, Mr Chapman, for estates for an estate now in the possession of Mrs Wroughton & rented by Joseph Wild, 45ft 6in; Mr John Hillier for an estate and for Downhams now in the possession of Mrs Wroughton and rented by J Wild, 26ft; Richard Stratton for an estate now in the possession of the widow of the late Richard Stratton & rented by John Stratton, 6ft; William Brimsdon for an estate now in the possession of John

Pontin and rented by Samuel Robins, 6ft; James Wroughton esq for manor house now in the possession of Mrs Wroughton, 38ft 7in.

NB a part, 6ft 8in long, next the gate on the south side, where a very large old elm stood some years since, is not noticed in the above account. In witness wherof we have hereunto set our hands the day and year above written. Thomas Markes vicar, William Coles and Richard Edmonds, churchwardens, John Pontin and Roger Stratton, overseers, Joseph Wild, John Stratton, Jonathan Puckridge, John Hazeland.

WILSFORD

General register, 1742-1812 (1275/2)

Mary Smith alias Pudd of Bottesford was buried 27 May 1752; she was said to be 105 years old and was cured of the struma or King's evil in her youth by the touch of King Charles II.

Isaac Perry entered [*parish*] clerk 5 Oct 1773.

1806 new joint stools to set the corpse on.

1809 seats removed out of the schoolhouse and some new seats made in the church and others repaired and the chancel ceiled; and the arch bricked up between the church and the schoolroom or aisle.

1813 3 new registers and a new iron chest to put them in.

WILSFORD WITH LAKE

General register, 1655-1743 (1986/1)

Memo of what seats in the church belong to Lake farm: one seat at the upper end, one behind the pulpit; 2 at the lower end above the north door, and 2 at the lower end below the door, at the left hand as you come into the church; one at the upper end, 2 next above the west door and 2 next the wall of the right side, save only a place for a woman person of John Jarvises family. This was attested by John Jarvis before us John Tutt vicar, John Day, John Jarvis 1690.

WILTON *See also p 295.*

General register, 1663-1714 (504/2)

A true and perfect copy of the several names of the persons dwelling within the borough of Wilton in the county of Wilts and the several sums of money by them given for and towards the support and relief of the poor sufferers etc: Mr Thomas Dennet mayor, his father and brother 1s 6d; Mr Sadler 6d; Mr John Toogood 1s; Mr Philip Gwin 1s; William Ratford 4d; Margaret Parker widow 2d; Thomas Broune 2d; Ed Toogood 3d; Samuel Vyenev 2d; Walter Tanner and his servants 6d; Widow Elizabeth Parker 2d; George Nicholas 2d; Thomas Brasher 2d; William Cowdry 3d; John ?Lalkit 2d; Mrs Raishley 6d; Richard Selcocke senior 3d; Richard Selcocke junior 2d; John Whitmarsh senior 1d; John Lannam 2d; Robert Shumshon 2d; Gilbert

Woodrow 2d; Thomas Ward senior 4d; Jervase Cosens 1d; Mr John Minety 6d; Roger Hebbard 4d; Mrs Abyn 2d; Mrs Hews 2d; John Jones 2d; John Gauntlet 1d; William Dyer 2d; William Seale 2d; John Abyn 1d; John Adams 1d; John North 1d; John Martin 1d; Francis Smith 2d; Anthony Smith 2d; James Hebbard 1d; Henry Helson 2d; Nicholas Starky 11d; Walter Dyer 1d; Richard Chalke 4d; Francis Hayden 1d; John Whitmark junior 1d; Robert Poticary 1d; John May 2d; John Broune 1d; Mrs Sharpe 6d; Mrs Mathews 4d; Thomas Kinge 4d; John Lannam 1d; John Jeffery 2d; Mrs Bancks 6d; Widow Sackler 4d; Humphrey Reynolds 2d; William Andrews 4d; Nicholas Wagland 4d; John Dawkins 1d; Total 15s 3d. 16 Jun 1672 A true and perfect copy of the several names of the persons dwelling within the borough of Wilton in the county of Wilts together with the several sums of money by them given for and towards the loss by fire in Coalharbour within the parish of Great Allhallows in London. Memo that there was collected as aforesaid from the persons aforesaid the full sum of 15s 3d; Philip Gwin rector; William Gray, George Younge churchwardens. *Interleaved in the register.*

General register, 1736-1782 (504/4)

John Whiteheart was made parish clerk of this parish 10 Nov 1746 by Revd Mr Conway. Dead.

Thomas Whiteheart was made clerk of this parish 4 Dec 1776 by Revd Mr Hawes. Dead; left the parish for some time and H Ford was appointed in his stead.

Henry Ford was made clerk of this parish 25 Apr 1780 by Revd Mr John Hawes rector. Resigned his clerkship and S Ford his son was appointed in his stead Sep 1795.

Samuel Ford was made clerk of this parish 6 Sep 1795 by Revd Mr Henry Hetley rector.

There is a series of annual payments to the churchwardens recorded through this register, and for 1734 and 1735 in the previous register [504/3], some of which are specified as for the use of the black cloth and ringing the bell at funerals made by parish clerks, possibly also acting as sexton; William Smith to 1738, James Smith to 1745, then John Whiteheart to 1776, Thomas Whiteheart to 1780, and Henry Ford 1783, when he accounted for £6 13s. Earlier sums paid were usually around £2. A note was made that nothing was brought to account for 1778 and 1779 although the cloth had been used several times.

18 Jul 1738 received of John Whiteheart £1 6s 8d for breaking the ground in the church at the burials of Charles Bignell. Mrs Elizabeth Moody, Mrs Elizabeth Whitmarsh and Ann daughter of Philip Smith; John Sealy.

17 May 1739 received of John Whiteheart 13s 4d for breaking the ground in the church at the burials of Mrs Anne Sharp widow and Mr Charles Smith of Salisbury; John Sealy.

16 Jun 1746 received of John Whiteheart 13s 4d for breaking the ground in the church at the burials of Mrs Dennet and Elizabeth Whitmarsh; Robert Carpenter.

WINGFIELD**General register, 1654-1743 (768/1)**

<George Saunders sworn as parish register before John Ashe esq, 19 Jul 1654>

General register, 1744-1812 (768/2)

'Here lyeth the Body
Of Robert Hyett MA
Who was 35 years a diligent
And faithful Pastor of this Church
and departed this Life Feby 6 1722 [1732 *new style*]
Aged 73.

Copy of the inscription on the tomb of Revd Mr Hyett in the churchyard at the east end of the chancel, defaced by the injuries of time Anno 1782.'

Memo whereas Mr Thomas Pennington of Bristol, who died in the year 1781, bequeathed to the minister and churchwardens of the parish of Wingfield £50, the interest thereof to be applied yearly to the use of the poor of that parish not receiving weekly pay: which said £50 was by the minister and churchwardens received of his executors and deposited in the bank of Cam and Co, afterwards Philpott and Co at Bath, and this interest from year to year applied as directed. Be it remembered that the said £50 has, by the minister and churchwardens, been taken out of the said bank, and that on 10 Apr 1805 the £50 with the addition of £8 2s 6d advanced by Edward Spencer rector of Wingfield to purchase therewith £100 stock was invested in the 8% consols annuities in his name as part of his stock in the said annuities. Now Edward Spencer does hereby acknowledge that after the repayment to him of the said £100 stock, the said £100 stock so purchased as above out of the stock standing in his name, now or at the time of his death, is the property of the minister and churchwardens of Wingfield as the legacy of the above mentioned Thomas Pennington, and that the interest or dividend arising from the same is to be applied yearly as by the will of the said Thomas Pennington is directed. Witness my hand Edward Spencer rector of Wingfield. Dated 1 Dec 1805.

WINSLEY**General register, 1762-1805 (882/3)**

The bell was put upon the tower 9 Jun 1780.
The church was new pewed and pulpit 1788.
The church was '?retfe' 13 Sep 178 -.

'Hear soul with Innocence is Drest
is gone to everlasting rest
the Lord gives and the Lord hath taken away
and Blessed Be the name of the lord. I say
I John Godwin Jn Clark of this Church

The Twenty First Day of December
in the Year 1796

WINTERBOURNE BASSETT

General register, 1706-1788 (1506/2)

William Wightwick DD rector aged 64 died 3.00 am 30 Nov 1766, buried 3 Dec, by me Algernon Clavering curate for the time being.

Memo Revd Robert Stebbing DD was inducted into the church of Winterbourne Bassett on Sun 15 Jun 1766 by me Algernon Clavering vicar of Broad Hinton.

WINTERBOURNE DAUNTSEY

General register, 1561-1708 (1250/1)

James 2 king of England Scotland France and Ireland, they say by right but everyone else [says] by fact. They pronounced his abdication; this critical distinction values him less to me. [1688] *In Latin*.

General register, 1799-1812 (1250/3)

George Willis parish clerk [*since*] 1778; *on title page*.

WINTERBOURNE EARLS

General register, 1557-1691 (1250/12) A gathering of two books
Nicholas Hayter of Winterbourne Earls carpenter sworn as parish register before Edward Tooker 25 Mar 1654.

General register, 1691-1791 (1250/13)

John Daves clerk of the parish 23 Jun 1754

Jer[emy] Davies curate 1754.

John Wiltshire clerk of the parish 19 Nov 1769

General register, 1796-1812 (1250/14)

William Davis parish clerk 1 Jan 1800; *on title page*

Marriage register, 1754-1812 (1250/15)

William Davis parish clerk 5 Mar 1805.

WINTERBOURNE GUNNER

General register, 1560-1747 (1250/34)

Memo the seat set up in the chancel at the upper end on the south side thereof by Mr Bee, with my consent and by my leave in the time of Cromwell, was by agreement between us to continue his for the use of him and his family for so long time only as he and I should both live in this parish, but now, he being deceased it remains to me and the succeeding minister of this parish and was left and resigned to me by Mr Bee before his death at his departure

out of this parish into the parish of Downton; so that the succeeding owners of, or inhabitants in that farm, which he here sold, and in which he lived when he set up this seat, have no right in, or any authority to lay claim to that seat. So testified by me John Burnley rector, 6 Oct 1673.

General register, 1747-1791 (1250/35)

Received at the archdeacon's visitation at Sarum 9 May 1757 9 briefs.

I bought the living of Winterbourne Gunner 8 Oct 1768 Charles Coleman MA, Trinity college, Oxford, rector.

NB there are five houses and gardens and two meadows at Ford belonging to this parish. The wicket or gate going into the churchyard is found in repair by the rector and so is the chancel. Charles Coleman rector.

The way to the church belongs to the rector.

The Easter offerings are 4d for each person above 15 years of age due to the rector.

9 Nov 1786, Thomas Sutton having opened a road into the back lane of this parish, out of the meadow belonging to this parsonage, this is to certify that there is no road allowed through the said meadow but that the sole right of inclosing the said meadow belongs to the rector of this parish, the said Thomas Sutton being only the tenant, and renting Bowle's farm with the tithes, made a road to carry corn, hay and other husbandry implements backward and forward during the pleasure of me the said rector. Charles Coleman.

There is a right to a drain or gutter from the parsonage house to the road under the wall of the orchard, through the garden now called Cusse's, with right of ingress, egress and regress, through the door way of Cusse's garden wall, to cleanse the said drain or gutter at any time, as by agreement with the Revd Joseph Scott, when I purchased the advowson of this living 8 Sep 1768. Charles Coleman rector.

The parsonage has a right to common herbage or pasture for 60 sheep and herbage or pasture for all other cattle and fowls, the same as the rest of the farmers in this parish.

There are 7 pieces of land in the common fields; and one meadow in all about 9 acres, an orchard, gardens, a house, barn, stable, carthouse and wood house on it.

Note the garden and cottage called Cusse's belongs to Mrs Jane Wilson widow the present owner and occupier; the incumbent has a right of ingress, egress and regress, to cleanse the drain or gutter belonging to the incumbent.

There is a right of 3 feet from the woodhouse and south wall from end to end of it, and also a right of 3 feet from the east wall (in the garden called Cusse's alias Wilson's) belonging to the incumbent thereof from end to end; Charles John [Coleman] rector, 22 Jan 1817.

NB William Beach, when a young man, used to bank up, hedge and ditch, where the incumbent's south wall and woodhouse now border, as he person-

ally declared to the Revd C J Coleman himself some years past. 22 Jan 1817.

2 Jun 1795 Memo the door way into the orchard wall of the parsonage of Winterbourne Cherborough alias Gunner, was stopped up by the Revd Charles Coleman rector, for his convenience in 1787. This is to certify this parsonage has a right of ingress, egress and regress through Cusse's garden, now Wilson's, as heretobefore, it being stopped only for and during the pleasure of the aforesaid rector. Frances Jane Coleman.

Marriage register, 1754-1812 (1250/37)

The service for this parish is prayers and a sermon every Sunday and Christmas day, and prayers every Sunday in the afternoon from Lady day to Michaelmas, and prayers on Ash Wednesday, Good Friday, Monday and Tuesday after Easter, and Monday and Tuesday after Whitsunday, as mentioned by the Revd Joseph Scott of whom I purchased this living. Charles Coleman rector, 8 Oct 1768.

The north wall of the chancel was rebuilt 15 Oct 1810 by C[harles] J[ohn] Coleman curate; and a new south window completed 18 Oct 1810, by the aforementioned curate of this parish for the use of the rector Revd Charles Coleman MA, together with three pews newly built in the chancel and the east window new glazed, also a new wicket to the churchyard, 4 Apr 1811, by me C J Coleman curate for the use of the rector.

Banns of marriage between William Daycock and Martha Bowles both of this parish were published in this church on Sun 30 Jul, 6 Aug and 13 1786 by me Charles Coleman rector. NB These banns were forbidden by Alice Cook of the parish of Winterbourne Earls 6 & 13 Aug 1786; the said William Daycock having a female child by her, and having been published in the church at Winterbourne Earls by banns 3 Sundays to her before. William Daycock was afterwards married to Martha Bowles by advice of the spiritual court and bishop of Salisbury, by Charles Coleman.

WINTERBOURNE MONKTON

General register, 1670-1812 (1295/2)

Translated out of loose papers which came to my hands and digested into order in this book by Thomas Thorold vicar.

Receipt for a consumption: conserve of roses 2oz; conserve of hips 1oz; Lucatillus Balsom ½ oz; Species Diatragunth 1 dram; syrup of Balsam 3 drams.

WINTERSLOW

General register, 1596-1717 (3353/1)

Entered 24 Feb [1637] the copy of the licence granted by John Barnstone DD rector of Winterslow, to Alexander Thistlethwayte the elder of Middle Winterslow gent 'a weake and feeble old man of the age of 4 score yeares and upwards' to eat flesh during Lent, 11 Feb 1637.

The bible, the Communion book, the book of Homilies, the register book, Book of Canons, a small book of prayer 24 Mar, a small book for the 5th Nov of Thanksgiving.

Early 17th inventory.

26 Oct 1646 Memo that the £10 bequeathed to Elizabeth Rudman for the maintenance of her and her children by John Barnstone DD, late rector of Winterslow, was delivered to her the day and year above written for the use aforesaid: In the presence of John Lake (X), William Struggnell of Pitton.

Richard Ely of Winterslow was elected parish register 5 Mar 1654; sworn before Alexander Thistlethwaite JP.

General register, 1717-1769 (3353/2)

This new register of the parish of Winterslow in the year of our Lord 1717 and in 3rd year of the reign of our sovereign lord George by the grace of God king of Great Britain etc and in the 81 year of the age of Gabriel Thistlethwaite rector of the parish, who at that time was resident on the place 47 years, God grant that all those names herein registered may be written in the Book of Life. Amen.

The yew tree in the corner on the other side of the church rails was placed there by the order of the rector near about 10 years before this register began and set there by the hand of Andrew Beacham; remember how many years it stands.

General register, 1769-1812 (3353/3)

1768 Caroline lady Holland repaired and new seated the church at her own expense which amounted to £130 and upwards. At the same time crimson velvet pulpit reading desk and communion table covers and cushions with gold ornaments, the whole to the amount of £60 and upwards, were given by Lady Mary Fox. At the same time were given new bible and prayer books by the Hon. Mr Fox. And by the rector the five tables containing The Decalogue, The Creed, The Lord's Prayer and the Sentence over the altar.

The church was new seated and places thus fixed, 1768

A: 1 White; 4 James Wheeler; 5 William Forder; 7, 8 Joseph Baugh; 9 John Forder, Middleton.

B: 1 Mr King; 2 the Mill; 3 John Judd, Middleton; 4 John Hooker; 5 John Sopp senior; 6-9 Middleton farm.

The two long benches unmarked on the north side belong to the Hon Mr Fox.

C: 1 Charles Rogers; 2, 3 James Harris; 4 John Rogers; 6-9 Mr Hayter.

D: 1 William Forder; 2 John Forder, Weston; 3 James Wheeler; 4 William Burden; 5 George Wise; 7 The poor man who has the £10 pa.*

E: 1 William Fiander; 2 Mr Dench; 5, 6 The Hut; 7 Andrew Beacham; 8 Henry Hinxman.

F 1 Thomas Wheeler; 2 Edward Plowman; 3 James Feltham; 4, 5 Thomas

Ely; 6,7 Reeves Dame; 8, 9 Edward Plowman. G: 1 Cornelius Wade; 2 Joseph Williams; 3 Richard Stone, Weston. H 1-3 Rolfe's; 4, 5 Thomas Ely for Rodmans; 6 Thomas Wheeler.

I: 1, 2 Williams for Watkins; 3-5 Henry Hinxman; 6 Thomas Ely for two. K: The whole seat Charles Rogers. L: Whole seat Mr Hayter for late Coopers. The west side for women: 1 Richard Stone; 2 White; 3 Fianders; 4 Burden; 5 The poor woman who has the £10*; 6 King; 7 Joseph Stone; 9, 10 Middleton farm; 12-14 The workhouse.

The pews in the chancel belong to the rector: that on the right as you go out of the chancel to Mr Hayter; that on the left to Middleton farm; that on the south, and those in the north aisle to Mr Fox. * *The recipients of John Thistlethwaite's charity; see Ch Com p900.*

Churchyard railed in 1770; begin from the wicket on the south side and proceed eastward:

37 perches and a wicket by Mr Fox; 2p Mr Thistlethwayte of Tytherly; 1p William Feltham; 20p and a wicket Mr Hayter; 1p the Hut; 3p Charles Rogers; 2p Maton's Living put up by Mr Brodie; 1p George Wix; 7p Middleton farm; 1p John Judd, Middleton; 1p John Hoker; 4p Mr Fox; 3p Thomas Ely; 2p Henry Hinxman; 4p Mr Fox; 1p Mr King; 1p Edward Plowman; 1p Thomas Ely; 2p Thomas Wheeler; 3p Rolfe's; 3p and a wicket Mr Fox. Total 100p.

From 1769-1795 Peter Bellinger Brodie, rector kept a section each year entitled Annals, which also included the names of the churchwardens, overseers, waywardens and tithingmen, together with the totals of marriages, christenings and burials; 1769; bibles, prayer books etc were distributed among them by Mr Fox and his lady. The burials this year have been more than double the number in anyone year for many years back owing to the whooping cough raging among the children.

1770; bibles etc given as above. Bishop's visitation, young people confirmed 10. 1773 young people confirmed 21. 1789; a putrid disorder prevailed; christenings 23, burials 32. 1790; smallpox in the parish; christenings 14, burials 22.

Children catechised between 1769-1795 (except 1793) 41, 46, 34, 30, 30, 37, 34, 23, 33, 30, 28, 23, 21, 19, 27, 22, 25, 23, 27, 21, 30, 29, 20, 23, 20, 23.

Summaries of some of the preparations for Wiltshire, in case of invasion, taken in 1803-1804. The county was organised into ten subdivisions. These figures were pasted into the back of the register, probably by one of the parishioners appointed to organise the scheme in the area. The tables are reproduced on pp. 284-5 overleaf.

	(a)	(b)	(c)	(d)	(e)	(f)	(g)	(h)	(i)	(j)	(k)
Bradford	175	4144	1060	12052	1711	281	1003	283	375	14	58
Chippenham	226	6371	2258	22461	5045	425	1800	673	656	26	196
Devizes	129	2412	734	54826	3323	287	1920	739	575	32	592
Highworth	416	10512	3045	25369	6683	581	2293	993	979	25	51

Hindon	42	2087	736	34673	2054	216	1044	332	297	19	219
Malmesbury	194	3372	1199	7032	2253	202	692	235	258	7	104
Marlborough	95	1110	811	70233	5643	384	2403	838	722	22	783
Sarum	72	4441	3105	179344	6537	777	3106	1301	742	47	516
Tinhead											
& Melksham	38	5126	1468	9864	1839	158	857	300	405	5	20
Warminster	131	1038	857	48003	2263	303	1295	414	373	13	283

	(l)	(m)	(n)	(o)	(p)	(q)	(r)	(s)
Bradford	2253	203	304	734	68	132	531	1372
Chippenham	5857	757¾	490	1250½	341	176	760½	2788
Devizes	11355	2524½	1862	6551	602	120	527	3159½
Highworth	7149	874	848½	3764	89	30	175	2237
Hindon	3520	1772	900	299½	290	9	97	1104
Malmesbury	1027	86	233	328	67	34	48	288
Marlborough						110	285	3171
Sarum	17736	6779	6051	1543	282		302	10204
Tinhead								
& Melksham	1587½	318	171½	1070	18	116½	128	858
Warminster	5870	2243	2587	603½	1213	91	68	3095

Key to columns with totals:

(a) Oxen 1518. (b) Cows 40613. (c) Young cattle & colts 16273. (d) Sheep & goats 456,857. (e) Pigs. 37451 (f) Riding horses 3614 (g) Draft horses 16413 (h) Wagon horses 6038 (i) Carts 5382. (j) Corn mills 210. (k) Ovens 2822. (l) Quarters of wheat 56651. (m) Quarters of oats 15556. (n) Quarters of barley 13436. (o) Quarters of beans & peas 16142. (p) Sacks of potatoes 2970. (q) Quarters of flour or other meal 818. (r) Sacks of flour or other meal 2921. (s) Quarters of malt 28276.

Marriage register, 1754-1812 (3353/8)

1803; Memo Revd P[eter] B[ellinger] Brodie gave the singers £1 is upon condition that they sing on the Sunday after 24 Feb every year 'O be joyfull' or 'Clap your hands'.

WOODBOROUGH

General register, 1663-1706 (1737/2)

Memo 26 Jun 1687, that the Articles of the Church of England have been publicly read twice in the parish church of Woodborough before divine service at evening prayers this present year, and the canons once (and also in the year 1686) by me William Coningsby rector here. Attested by Edward Smith, John Bartlet, Richard Ponten (X), Richard Zealwood (X), parish clerk. So also in the year 1688 by me William Coningsby rector here. Attested by John Bolter, Joseph Smith, Thomas Door (X), Richard Zealwood (X), parish clerk. Same 1689, attested by John Bulter, Joseph Smith, Thomas Door (X), Richard Zealwood (X).

No. of Persons between the Ages of 15 and 60, willing to serve, and in what Capacity.	How Armed.				No. of Persons between the Ages of 15 and 60, willing to act as Fencible or Labourers.	Implements they can bring.						No. of Persons between the Ages of 15 and 60, willing to act as Servants with Cattle.	No. of Persons between the Ages of 15 and 60, willing to act as Servants with Teams.	No. of Persons between the Ages of 15 and 60, willing to act as Guides.	
	Cavalry.		Infantry.			Felling Axes.	Pick Axes.	Spades.	Shovels.	Bill Hooks.	Saws.				
	Swords.	Pistols.	Firlocks.	Pikes.											
On Horseback.	On Foot.														
1 Bradford Subdivision	154	174	2	12	2	289	50	72	160	74	106	26	22	25	2
2 Chippenham D.	66	400	6	109	126	570	259	227	137	108	57	150	166	145	80
3 Devizes D.	34	752	3	159	11	705	187	119	166	121	259	84	263	310	49
4 Highworth D.	28	482	00	580	5	542	159	261	928	114	650	104	151	166	26
5 Maiden D.	66	244	12	103	14	238	52	59	153	28	145	57	103	122	38
6 Marlborough D.	96	96	"	17	"	204	28	25	47	21	52	12	18	27	4
7 Marlborough D.	7	471	23	146	26	283	55	115	293	80	154	18	85	100	18
8 Sarum D.	58	1674	73	591	29	2096	268	401	743	278	359	318	799	868	134
9 Southhead & Melksham D.	173	220	3	10	57	290	111	84	222	47	79	61	156	81	9
10 Maidenhead D.	92	137	"	124	5	238	119	143	208	123	213	191	124	150	10
	670	5078	219	263	2021	286	2466	1616	2854	1992	2473	448	1918	2081	378

Winterslow: summaries of some of the preparations for Wiltshire, in case of invasion, taken in 1803-1804 (transcribed on pp. 282-3 above).

Men between 15th 60	Infirm, or incapable of active Service.	Serving in Volunteer Corps or armed Affiliations.	Aliens.	Quakers.	Persons who, from Age, In- firmity, or other Cause, may probably be in- capable of removing them- selves.
3607	336	242	4	3	15010 <i>Bradford</i>
3900	240	98	2	12	<i>Chippenham</i>
3223	210	41	1	5	<i>Devizes P.</i>
3707	305	101	1	"	<i>Highworth P.</i>
2209	952	65	9	"	<i>London P.</i>
1918	125	120	3	4	<i>Salisbury</i>
3879	162	72	2	"	<i>Marlborough</i>
3209	812	248	48	15	<i>Salisbury</i>
1718	151	67	"	9	<i>Timberham</i>
2627	228	242	2	1	<i>Marlborough</i>
3507	3529	1336	72	49	40853

Winterslow: summaries of some of the preparations for Wiltshire, in case of invasion, taken in 1803-1804 (transcribed on pp. 282-3 above).

I began to take care of the parish of Manningford Abbots for Mr Malcher 11 Mar 1711; J[ames] Wall.

The smallpox broke out in the parish 24 Feb 1711.

General register, 1706-1760 (1737/3)

James Wall MA was inducted into the church of Woodborough by Edward Pocock rector of Mildenhall 11 Apr 1710.

Revd John Chapman vicar of Weston by Bath held the church during a minority for two years a man most dear to me, who resigned honestly without any difficulty (how rare). The time John Chapman was rector James Wall was curate.

Thomas Zealwood parish clerk 30 Jan 1724.

Higgins Harris vicar of Bredwardine and rector of Brobury in Herefordshire was inducted into the rectory of this church 6 Nov 1731 by Robert Smith vicar of Wilcot.

General register, 1777-1812 (1737/5)

An account of the population of the parish of Woodborough taken 27 May 1811:

Houses		Families	Males	Females
1	Revd Dr [George]Gibbs	1	1	3
2	Mr Dyke	1	0	2
3	Richard Rudman	1	2	2
4	John Mathews	1	2	3
5	George Waight	1	6	3
6	John Mathews senior	1	3	1
7	James Wells	1	3	1
8	William Wells and Widow Rivers	2	4	4
9	John Wiltshire and Ruth White	2	3	7
10	Richard Wise and Jane Drew	2	2	3
11	Thomas Grimes	1	1	6
12	William Sims	1	2	1
13	Thomas Grimes senior	1	1	0
14	Mr Stratton	1	4	4
15	William Bristow and William Powel	2	2	4
16	Daniel Mathews	1	2	5
17	Benjamin and John Berret	1	2	4
18	John Box Wiltshire & J Hibberd	2	5	6
19	George Hibbard & Sa. Kent	2	3	5
20	Thorp Rye	1	1	1
21	Harry Robbins	1	7	5
22	Joseph Smith & Jane Bartlet	2	4	4
23	John Gardner	1	2	3
24	Doctor Kendal	1	1	1
25	James Oram, James Neate	3	7	8

& Thomas Beake			
26 William Springford	1	0	1
27 George Rudman & William Gardner	2	10	6
28 H Hamlin, C Wimlett & S Willis	3	1	5
29 John & Edmund Hailstone	2	9	5
30 T Mortimer, R Ewens & Isaac Gidings	3	3	5
31 T Mortimer junior & Mary Beak	2	5	6
32 John Neate	1	5	3
33 John & Mary Bartlet	2	1	5
34 Thomas Bradfield	1	1	3
35 James Bartlet & John Hiscock	2	5	5
36 John Hodgetts	1	2	5
37 J Silly, S Bartlet, M Naish & A Ockel	4	7	6
38 Robert Maslen	1	3	2
39 Francis Holmes	1	2	1
40 James Macklin	1	4	3
41 Thomas Fidler	1	3	4
42 John Stratton	1	3	2
43 Austin Oady	1	1	2
44 P Brown, S Pye, T Bartlet & T Sanford	4	6	7
45 William Waight	1	1	1
46 Paul Pinchen	1	1	1
47 John Rose	1	1	1
48 Bartholemy Lister & Richard Price	2	3	3
49 Jonathan Keepence	1	2	1
50 Thomas Sandford senior	1	1	3
51 Thomas Blackman	1	2	0
52 Stephen Fielder's house unoccupied			
Total	76	153	172

Total of males and females 325

Families chiefly employed in agriculture 49

Families chiefly employed in trade 14

All other families not comprised in the two preceding classes 13

Families relieved by the parish since 27 May 1810 exclusive of such as do not reside in the parish viz widows Chandler and Mathews and James Goddard and Ann Ballard's boy 35

WOODFORD

General register, 1538-1653 (1987/1)

'Pavements threescore 6s 6d; Tyles 12 3s; lathes 7d; ?lyde & heare ...; ...sth ..; wood...; Total 9s 2d. Whereof Paid us for my brother 2s 6d for Gearge Selfe; Nynian Browne oen me 13d.'

Written in an early 17th century hand on the end cover.

'Se heare by others thou Maiest see
thine owne fraile Mortalitie.'

'Grace and Good Mannars maketh aman
 But woe bee to him that noe Good Cann
 Hee that none Can nor none will (bo...rn
 If Hee wer hanged it was not ...h a pitt
 I harme. Isaac Good 1657. *Isaac Good married Elizabeth Upjohn on 20 Jul 1657.
 He may have been a relative of Henry Good, vicar of Woodford c1640.*

John Good his hand and pen. *Written on the end cover, 17th cent.*

2 May 1633: Philip Dakins, aged 13 years or thereabouts, son of Nicholas Dakins of Little Woodford, put himself apprentice unto Lawrence Hyde of Heale esq., until he accomplish the age of 24 years. And this is done by the desire of his father and with the full consent of the churchwardens and overseers of the parish of Woodford. In witness whereof the parties have hereunto put their hands the day and year abovesaid. Lawrence Hyde, Philip Dakins (X), Nicholas Dakins (X), George Heed, Giles Whithorne (X), Robert Atkins (X).

17 Feb 1639: Giles Ward, son of John Ward of Little Woodford, aged 12 years or thereabouts, puts himself apprentice unto Leonard Webb until he accomplish the age of 24 years. Leonard is to give him meat, drink and lodging and to breed himself in husbandry during the term of his apprenticeship and at the end of his said term to give unto Giles two whole suits of both linnen and woollen of apparell and 20s in money. And this is done by the desire of Giles his father [*ie John*] and with the full consent of the churchwardens and the overseers of the parish of Woodford. In witness whereof they have hereunto put their hands. Giles Ward (X), John Ward (X), Leonard Webb (X), Richard Roberts churchwarden, Thomas Whithorne overseer of the poor, Richard Wynser churchwarden (X), William Head churchwarden (X). *Part of the final number in the year is missing; it is probably 8 old style, which is confirmed by Giles' baptism in the register in 1627.*

General register, 1654-1693 (1987/2)

William Dawkins, Woodford, yeoman, sworn parish register before Edward Tooker, 14 Jan 1654.

General register, 1695-1760 (1987/3)

Thomas Thornton [*parish*] clerk, 1777.

Burial register, 1783-1812 (1987/11).

Memoranda; In 1783 barley sold for £2 5s per quarter; malt 6s 6d per bushel. A deep snow 25 Oct 1784.

A seat belonging to farmer Philip Self's house was taken into a seat belonging to Heale farm 16 Feb 1782.

In the latter end of Dec 1788, and in Jan 1789 the mill pond near the churchyard was frozen passible at two different times, one in each month. 1800 in Jul bread was sold at 3s 5d the half peck loaf, barley was sold at £4 per quarter, malt at 10s per bushel.

WOOTTON BASSETT

General register, 1584-1686 (1235/4). T F in cartouche for each year's entries 1619-1640 and from 1654. [*Thomas Ford was vicar*]

General register, 1664-1672 (1253/5)

Notation for change ringing for six bells, mid-18th Cent.

General register, 1746-1786 (1235/10)

Thomas Mayris clerk of the parish on title page.

WOOTTON RIVERS

General register, 1728-1801 (1085/1)

Memo the two yew trees in the churchyard were given and set up by Mr Daniel Keylway 1735, who then lived at Wick farm.

The 3rd yew tree in the churchyard was planted by Ralph Walters esq of 3 Sussex Gardens, Hyde Park, 2 Nov 1859.

WROUGHTON

General register, 1653-1754 (551/5)

Robert Fluell of Wroughton sworn as parish register before William Sadler, 3 Apr 1654.

The yew tree was set up in the churchyard at Christmas 1695.

Burial register, 1785-1812 (551/10)

Memoranda: In 1795 wheat was so dear that in many parts of England it sold for £1 1s per bushel.

1798 a list of parishioners who subscribed to the Voluntary Contributions: HB Pye esq £42; Mr Calley £40; W Codrington esq £40; Mr Bathe £10 10s; Mr Neate £10 10s; the curate $\frac{1}{4}$ salary £8 15s; Mr John Washbourn £2 2s; Mr H King £1 1s; Mr R King £1 1s; Mr F King £1 1s; Mr Maskelyne yeoman £1 1s; Mr Beams £1 1s; Miss Mathews £1 1s; Mr Mathews £1 1s; Mrs Dore £1 1s; Mr S Austin junior £1 1s; Mr Jacobs £1 1s; Mr Dick 10s 6d; Mr Read churchwarden 10s 6d; George Carpenter 2s 6d; Mr Sadler 10s 6d; Mr Buckland 10s 6d; Mr Donaldson 10s 6d; Mr Brind 10s 6d; J Durnford servant to Mrs Calley 10s 6d; Mr Dunn 5s; Mrs Seymour 2s 6d; John Constable 2s 6d; John Wallis 2s 6d; Charles Bisant 2s 6d; Joseph Mathews 2s 6d; William Herring 2s 6d; Thomas Coleman 2s 6d; Diana Caish and Joseph Nollard, servants to Revd Mr Charleton 5s; by the above list it appears that some of the richest farmers were so fond of their money that they would not contribute anything. R[ichard] J[ohn] Charleton [minister]. Total £169 10s 6d. In 1801 wheat was so dear that bread was sold in London for near 30s per bushel and in general throughout the kingdom at 29s, for many weeks and bacon at 15d per lb by the side and all other meat in proportion such as beef, mutton, pork etc at 9d per llb, barley flour at 20s per bushel and malt 14s,

and all the necessities of life in proportion, yet there was plenty of every kind to be had for money.

WYLYE

These extracts have been taken from the transcript of the registers by T H Baker and J J Hammond published in 1913, and checked against the originals.

General register, 1581-1654 (521/2)

A note in Latin about the outbreak of plague in autumn 1603, which led to the register of burials not being kept up.

1636 Thomas Kent of Deptford in the parish of Wylve planted the elm trees from the east side of the churchyard up to the west end of the churchyard. At the same time John Hillmann of Wylve planted a yew tree in the churchyard. *Original in Latin*

General register, 1653-1709 (521/3)

Thomas Clarke alias Hughes, chosen the parish register 2 Apr 1654, was sworn before Richard Hill, 11 Apr 1654.

Oliver Naylor rector of Tawstock Devon and prebend of the church of Exeter preached in this church in the absence of Mr Thomas Hill rector of the same on 22 May 1644.

In the year 1678 John Locke innholder, being one of the churchwardens, caused the quarter clock to be set up; Thomas Clarke.

General register, 1709-1801 (521/4) See also p 295.

I have this 3rd day of Apr 1771 in the presence of several of the inhabitants at church, appointed, by my **sole** power, as minister for the time being according to the 91st canon of the church and the custom of the parish, Robert Cool to be clerk of this parish in the place of Richard Rumsey deceased; John Eyre curate.

The chancel of the church of Wylve was new paved and wainscoted in the year 1763 and the pews painted, the wainscot and communion rails rubbed over with oil, and the east windows quite new made and the two other windows greatly repaired in the year 1764. And in the last mentioned year the east and south walls to the churchyard were built with brick and covered with a stone coping, and also new gates and stile put up and the wicket repaired and made suitable to the gates.

And in the year 1765 the church was new paved, a new font set up and a new door made to the entrance into the belfry out of the church.

In 1766 the belfry was new laid out of the best of the stone removed out of the church. The steps up to the gallery rebuilt with the addition of some of the stones round about the old font. A new pair of stocks set up. A new gallery door. The gallery painted. The gates and stile painted over again.

A new cloth for the communion table and a new pall. And the iron-railed monument cleaned and painted. In 1767 a new church door and lock. The porch ceiled. The chancel roof greatly repaired. The gallery enlarged by the jutting out in the middle of it.

1768 a necessary house built for the farm and school kept there.

1769 the chancel laid open to the church and the iron work put up to support the beam. The east wall of the churchyard raised.

1770 the two tables with the B:Ls:P and Commandments put up. *The Belief, or Apostles' Creed, and the Lord's Prayer.*

1772 the stile of the churchyard stopped up; a road under the wall having been made some time before. A new surplice.

1773 the Commandment tables new done and put up again NB the first time they were done miserably. Two graves bricked over.

All the seats of the church topped against the wall with oak. The pulpit and desk thoroughly repaired, fitted up and painted. A new pulpit cloth and cushion and a front cloth to the desk.

1774 all the seats in the church, the gallery and seats in the chancel painted and the rails and wainscot in the chancel and the church door cleaned.

1775 a new church clock.

1779 a new communion cloth.

1780 two new corpse stools.

1781 a table containing an account of Mr Willoughby's charity put up in the church. A silver bason for baptisms.

1782 the window in the belfry opened and new glazed.

1783 the walk from the churchyard door to the church porch paved with stone.

1784 the north window to the gallery enlarged.

1785 a pitched way made from the white door to the churchyard wicket. A drain made under the road and covered over opposite Mr Potticary's yard gates and another in the same way at the beginning of the lane leading to Hanging Langford, and also a third opposite Mr Locke's gateway. Three seats quite new made at the bottom of the north side of the church. The seats and wainscot with the rails of the chancel thoroughly repaired, painted and varnished; and the ironwork in the chancel and under the gallery, and the iron rails in, and the gates belonging to, the churchyard were all painted at the same time.

1786 all the seats on the south side from the belfry to the porch new floored.

1787 the other part of the south side up to the desk new floored too. NB half to be paid by the parish.

1788 all the seats on the north side of the church new floored except the three new ones under the gallery by the order of Dr Harrington, and at the expense of the parish. Another surplice by order of Dr Harrington too. *John Harrington DD, prebendary of Yatesbury from 1791, acted as surrogate to the chancellor at the bishop's visitation in 1789, and was presumably acting in that same capacity here [D154/57/5].*

Wed 24 Oct 1792 died aged 66 years and upward after a very long and severe illness, which he bore with the most eminent degree of true Christian resignation, John Eyre DD, thirty three years the worthy curate of this place, in which long time he never once omitted divine service twice every Lord's day, saints' days, and every Wednesday and Friday, unless hindered by the

mere force of extreme affliction: towards the close of his life, the prospect of future happiness, through the merits of his dear Redeemer, opened on his departing soul with peculiar force, and at his death, he both by his actions and words fully showed, his death to have no sting, his grave no victory. At his death he gave £10 to be distributed among the poor of this parish, which was accordingly done by his disconsolate widow.

Revd William Moody appointed curate of Wylve 1 Nov 1792.

Revd James Eyre SCL, son of the late John Eyre DD, commenced assistant curate to Revd William Moody 29 Sep 1799.

On the resignation of the curacy of this place on Michaelmas 1801, Revd John Seagram was appointed curate vice Revd William Moody.

General register, 1793-1812 (521/9)

4 May 1793 Revd John Dampier rector, Revd William Moody curate, William Potticary, Robert Small

We the churchwardens and other inhabitants of the parish of Wylve assembled at the vestry at Easter 1810 hereby certify that Revd J Seagram granted permission to Miss Elizabeth Harwood to erect a temporary seat in the chancel for the accommodation of her pupils only during the rector's pleasure; also that the said J Seagram granted the like permission to Isaac Fleming to make a partition in the seat belonging to the rectory in which servants usually sit for the accommodation of the said I Fleming for him to sit there only during the pleasure of the rector.

John Perrior, John Locke churchwardens, Thomas Perrior overseer, Mary Potticary, Christopher Brandis.

YATTON KEYNELL

General register, 1653-1742 (2236/1)

Robert Rymel of Yatton Keynell sworn as parish register before Edward Stokes, with a certificate this present day under the hands of the minister and other of the chief inhabitants of the parish of Yatton Keynell, 6 May 1654.

1707 Isaac Taylor came in as clerk.

APPENDIX 1: ADDENDA

Material that came to the attention of the editor after the completion of the text, or was overlooked in the initial research.

BEECHINGSTOKE (1738/1)

Jo Hayward his Register booke. *On the front cover.*
 ‘Heare you may see whose names are in this Booke
 When you Rede on you shall find themmen that be in et’

‘And soe the lord who did | Booth earth and heaven frame | Doeth trouble
 and will conserve | For ever more the sam | It twas Edward Cleverley did
 Rite | This and his name amen anno dom[*i*]n[*i*]’

Both written on endpapers in early 17th cent hands.

BREMHILL

General register, 1652-1676 (1154/1) ‘Edward Carpenter came to be
 clark in the yeare of oure Lorde 1662 at Whit Mundy’

Agreement whereby Joseph Buy, Sutton Benger, sergeweaver agrees to
 take Richard Haswell for seven years to teach him to weave linen and . . .
 Thomas Lovell [probably overseer of the poor] is to provide meat drink and
 apparel; Josphe will pay him as much as Richard shall earn. Edward Selfe,
 Bremhill Wick, yeoman and bachelor, Robert Helleiar, churchwarden for
 1674 -1675. A very garbled note.

General register, 1678-1725 (1154/11) *Parish officers chosen for the tith-*
ings: 1697 Churchwardens: Sir George Hungerford and William Wilshire.

Overseers of the Poor: Susanna Instance for Bremhill; John Tucker for
 Spirthill; John Tucker for Bayleyes which was Lamborns; Mr Wilson for
 that which was Ryleys at Foxham.

Surveyors Highways for 1698 chosen 27 Dec 1697: John Taylor for Bremhill;
 John Sallway clerk, to find one to for that which was late Hearth’s; John
 Brookes for Spirthill; Charles Barrett for Tytherton Kellaways. For 1704 chosen
 27 Dec 1703: Eleanor Russ to find one sufficient for Bremhill; Joseph Huse
 for Wick; John Tucker for Mr Bayleyes for Tytherton Kellaways; Humphrey
 Spenser sen for Spirthill; John Russ for Foxham.

FISHERTON DELAMERE

General register, 1561-1695 (522/1) *Quod bene vertat. May things turn*
out well; written by the headings for baptisms in 1638-1641, 1646, 1647, 1651
for the baptisms; Deus (God) added to 1646 and 1651.

Quod faustum tempus. *What a fortunate time, written by the heading for 1655.*

HILL DEVERILL

General register, 1648-1720 (1180/19)

'He ho swims in sin shall sink in sorro'

October 1660 'Edward ?B[utc]her [is my na]me and with my peen I
Wright the same and if my peen hade
Beene better I culde mend et at every letter'

Young men beware for thear is a day of doom Charles

'Thus Far by John Turner register' *Written after an entry for May 1668*

>1670< 1694

'George Selward is my name and
With my pen I wright the same
And if my pen had been better I would
Amend every letter'

General register, 1726-1757 (1180/20)

'Joseph Parker His hand
And pen Amen 1759'

A series of handwriting practises in both registers, possibly by successive parish clerks, now extremely faint and barely legible under u/v light. Several noted by JU Powell see WAM 28 pp 242-3

Marriage register, 1757-1812 (1180/23)

George Smith, clerk, entered upon the curacy of Hill Deverill Nov 6th 1797

LEIGH (1431/1)

'Kathern Witt of the Leigh in the p[ar]ish of Ashton Keynes in the countye of Wilts maketh oath that Sarah Greene of the Leigh A foresaid lately decesed was not putt in wrapt or wound up or buried in any shirte shift sheete or shroud made or mingled with flax hemp silke haire gold or Silver or other then what is made of sheeps wooll onely nor in any Coffin Lined or Faced with any Cloth Stuffe or any other Materiall but Sheeps wooll onely. Dated the 12th Day of April in the year of our lord god 1689

Sealed and Subscribed by us who weare p[re]sent and wittneses to the swereing of the A bovesaid Affadavitt

I doe heareby Certifie that the day and yeare A bovesaid the said the said (sic) Kathern Witt came before mee and made such Affadavitt as is above Specified A Cordinto A Late Actt of Parliment intituled an Act for bring in Woollen. Witness my hand the day and yeare A bove written.' *No signature. Sarah, daughter of Adam and Mary Greene was buried 9 Apr 1689. This note was written as the model from which justices' certificates would be taken.*

MALMESBURY (1589/3)

'John Buckle reputed to be a Gypsie deceased September 21 at John Perins house upon the Fosse at Shipton parishe in Gloucester shire was buried in King Athelstones Chappell by King Athelstone & the Lady Marshall within the Abbie church at Malmesbury. this buriall was Sep 23 1657. Howbeit hee was taken up againe (by the meanes of Mr Tho Ivey Esquier whoe then lived in the Abbie) (& by the desyres & endeavoures of others) out of the said chappell; and was removed into the Church yearde & there was reburied neere the East side of the Ch[urch] poarch October 7 1657 in the presence of Mr Tho Ivey of the Abbie Esq, Mr Pleadewell of Mudgell Esquier, Rich Whitmour of Slaughter in the County of Gloscest[er] & Dr [Abia] Qui of Malmesbury with very many others.

Burial 21 Jul 1662 of John Durham 'a stranger who died in the Griffin Inne & made show of his Wares there in way of a Lotterie not long before.'

OAKSEY (1579/1)

Unity, dau of William and Sarah White, vagrants, who assumed the name Egyptians, baptised 18 Feb 1795

STOCKTON (203/3)

Pasted in the register; below an unintelligible medical recipe:

R take best Rhubarb in powder 2 ½ oz, salt of wormwood a dram, orange peel half an ounce, grated nutmeg two scruples, cochineal half a dram. Infuse 48 hours by a warm fireside in a quart of ?true Arrack, strain it off & put it into a well corked bottle for use. *Rhubarb was used as a purge, Wormwood as a tonic. Cochineal, used in medicine as an antispasmodic, and Arrack, fermented juice of date, seem rather implausible ingredients, but no other readings of the words seemed feasible.*

WESTPORT (1589/47)

Mary, dau of William and Mary Gingell, baptised 6 Mar 1716 the evening in which the Heavens East, North and West were in a flame 'til one at night

WILTON BOROUGH COURT BOOK (G25/1/30)

John Sumpson was elected and sworn parish register of the borough of Wilton before Richard Read, mayor, 19 Oct 1653.

WYLYE (521/4)

John son of . . . Ball of Bapton was admitted here into church on account of the way to Fisherton Delamere being impassable by reason of the late great rains, 14 Dec 1768.

APPENDIX 2: PRINTED REGISTERS

A: MARRIAGE REGISTERS, 1754 –1812

Almost all the printed format registers as recommended by Hardwicke's Marriage Act, 1753, were produced and sold by Joseph Fox, parish clerk of the House of Commons, London, bookseller, (also Fox and Dodd) and by Thomas Lowndes, Exeter Exchange, London, later William Lowndes, eg West Dean (1892/4), Westbury (1427/14)

Here follows a list of local printers, who took the opportunities presented by this new market, and the parishes they supplied, although they were quickly overwhelmed by the London printers.

Reading

C[harles] Micklewright; Baydon, Collingbourne Kingston, Manningford Bruce, Ramsbury, Wootton Rivers

Cirencester

S[amuel] Rudder; Ashley, Blunsdon St Andrew, Cricklade St Mary, Great Somerford, Hullavington, Latton, Shorncombe.

Salisbury

Collins and Johnston, New Canal; Coombe Bissett, Tilshead, Warminster (2144/7, 13), Westbury, printed in London, sold by C&J (1427/12)

C[harles] Fellow; Salisbury St Thomas (1900/15, 1811)

Unnamed printer; Salisbury St Thomas, (1900/14, 1778)

Marlborough

E Harold: Wootton Rivers (1085/6, 1796); title pasted into register.

Bristol

Benjamin Hickey, Nicholas Street, bookseller,; Lacock (1654/9); made and sold by him.

In 1754 an unidentified local printer, probably from North Wiltshire or South Gloucestershire, produced customised printed front page with name of parish and churchwardens (printed or in ms) to be pasted into the registers. They are found in the registers of Ashley, Castle Eaton, Eisey, Leigh, Lydiard Millicent, Lynham, Marston Maisey, Minety, Oaksey, Poole Keynes (bound into the register), Purton (page missing but imprint on facing page is clear), Somerford Keynes, Stanton Fitzwarren.

B: BAPTISMS AND BURIALS, 1780-1812

Printed format registers for baptisms and burials were produced widely in response to the tax introduced in 1783, as they eased considerably the calculation of the sums due. There was a move to standardise record keeping in view of the importance of the demographic information of the registers, as reflected by John Nichols (see introduction pp xxi-xxii).

1780

J Nichols, Salisbury

Boscombe (1068/22), Bramshaw (HRO 55M83/PR3-4), Broad Chalke (1261/3, 14), Codford St Mary (1439/4) Codford St Peter (1439/4) Dilton (1427/68; no title or introduction), Fisherton Delamere (522/5), Maddington (1336/40), Melksham (1368/6), Nunton (783/3,4), Plaitford (HRO 111M71/PR1), Salisbury St Edmund (1905/5), West Dean, (3712/3) West Grimstead (1988/3, 8; no title or introduction), Westbury (1427/8; no title or introduction), West Harnham (1967/4), Whiteparish (830/4), Woodford (1987/5,10), Wroughton (551/10)

1783

T & W Lowndes, Fleet Street, London (1783)

Devizes St John (1597/6, 20), Devizes St Mary (1656/7, 18), Idmiston (1098/5), Landford (1063/3), Littleton Drew (1599/2), North Wraxall (1170/2), Winterbourne Dauntsey (1250/3), Winterbourne Earls (1250/14)

J Cary, Shepton Mallet

Maiden Bradley (18/6), Nettleton (1598/3), West Kington (2237/1)

* * *

Book sellers and stationers who supplied unprinted registers:

James Read, Trowbridge; Lea & Cleverton, 1792 (524/2)
 Hazard & Binns, Cheap Street, Bath; Winsley, 1805 (882/4).
 S[amuel] Rudder, Cirencester, Ashley, 1774 (GRO P21 IN 1/2)

APPENDIX 3: JUSTICES AND PARISH REGISTERS

A: JUSTICES WHO SWORE-IN PARISH REGISTERS, 1653-1657 (Residences given if known from other sources)

North & Mid Wiltshire:

William Blissett: Aldbourne, Ashton Keynes, Burbage, Chilton Foliat, Collingbourne Ducis, Collingbourne Kingston, Clyffe Pypard, East Kennett, Easton Royal, Great Bedwyn (2), Marlborough St Mary, Marlborough St Peter & Paul, Ogbourne St Andrew, Pewsey, Preshute.

Gabriel Martyn: Ashton Keynes (2), Bishopstone (N Wilts), Clyffe Pypard, Little Hinton, Ogbourne St Andrew, Pewsey, Rodbourne Cheney, Sevenhampton, Somerford Keynes, Swindon, Tockenham.

William Sadler: Ashton Keynes (2), Bishopstone (N Wilts), Broad Hinton, Chisledon, Eisey, Little Hinton, Lyneham, Ogbourne St Andrew, Pewsey, Purton, Sevenhampton, Tockenham, Wroughton.

Robert Hippiisley: Blunsdon St Andrew, Eisey, Hannington, Highworth, Inglesham, Latton, South Marston (2), Stanton Fitzwarren, Stratton St Margaret.

William Shute (of Seagry): Brinkworth, Christian Malford, Dauntsey, Grittleton, Kington St Michael, Lacock, Lyneham, Poole Keynes, Sherston, Sutton Benger.

William Eyre: Atworth, Box, Christian Malford, Corsham (2), Ditteridge, Holt, Lacock, Lyneham.

Nicholas Green: Alderton, Grittleton, Horningsham, Poole Keynes, Castle Combe.

Edward Stokes (of Tytherton Lucas): Calne, Lacock, Langley Burrell, Lyneham, Chippenham, Yatton Keynell.

William Yorke (of West Lavington): West Lavington (2), Malmesbury.

George Ivey: Lacock (2), Long Newnton.

Edmund Wayte (of Malmesbury): Malmesbury.

John Lawrence (mayor): Marlborough St Mary, Marlborough St Peter & Paul.

Thomas Hunt: Marlborough St Mary, Marlborough St Peter & Paul.

Thomas Eyre: Bishops Cannings, Melksham.

John Ashe: Wingfield.

Thomas Estcourt: Luckington.

Edward Baynton: Bromham, Rowde.

John Taylor (mayor): Devizes St John, Devizes St Mary.

John Tilton (mayor): Devizes St John, Devizes St Mary.

South Wiltshire:

Edward Tooker: Britford, Bulford, Chute, Durnford, Everleigh, Figheledean, Great Wishford, Idmiston, Rollestone, Shrewton, Winterbourne Earls, Woodford.

Edward Michell: Boyton, Brixton Deverill, Chitterne St Mary, Chitterne All Saints, Codford St Mary, Codford St Peter, Great Cheverell, Heytesbury, Horningsham, Norton Bavant, Sutton Veny, Upton Scudamore, Warminster, Westbury.

Richard Hill: Stratford sub Castle: Durnford, Wylde.

Walter South: Chilmark, Dinton, Ebbesbourne Wake.

Francis Swanton: Durrington, Martin.

Alexander Thistlethwaite: Allington, Winterslow.

Thomas Grove: Donhead St Andrew, East Knoyle.

John Ridout: Heytesbury.

Edward Manning: Bishopstone (S Wilts)

Thomas Raye (mayor): Salisbury St Martin, Salisbury St Thomas.

John Ivie: Salisbury St Edmund.

Richard Read (mayor) Wilton.

B: OCCUPATIONS OF PARISH REGISTERS

Broadweaver: Melksham

Carpenter: Great Wishford, Winterbourne Earls

Husbandman: Sevenhampton, Sutton Benger

Incumbent: Blunsdon St Andrew, Britford, Clyffe Pypard, Chute, Durrington, Eisey, Great Bedwyn, Hannington, Lacock, Luckington, Malmesbury, Preshute, Rollestone, Sherston, South Marston, West Lavington

Miller: Durnford

Parish clerk: Chiseldon, Salisbury St Edmund, Salisbury St Thomas

Scrivener: Chippenham

[Schoolmaster] South Marston

Shoemaker: Purton

Tailor: Bulford, Idmiston, Shrewton

Yeoman: Collingbourne Kingston, Woodford

APPENDIX 4: PARISH CLERKS

Details taken from baptismal and burial entries in parish registers or other sources.

Alderbury: Burial of Charles Bungay, late clerk 28 Feb 1778
burial of Jonathan Jerriott, 72, 31 Aug 1805; clerk for 27 years.

Devizes St John and St Mary: The eponymous Clark family provided clerks for both parishes from the mid 17th to mid 18th centuries. From jottings, changes of hands writing the registers and burial dates, it is possible to establish a succession of three clerks, all named Thomas; the first died in 1702 (buried 6 May; described as a serge weaver in his will (P1/C/478), the second was buried 3 Sep 1729. Thomas 2 allowed his son Richard (baptised 26 Apr 1700, buried 30 Nov 1727), to write in the register. (See pp ... , 82-84). Richard's use of the register illustrates how tricky these jottings can be to interpret. He never became clerk despite being such a prolific scribbler.

Fisherton Delamere: Joel Doughtie, described as craftsman and parish clerk in the record of his son's baptism in 1629 was the son of Joel D, vicar of the parish, who died in 1613.

Ogbourne St Andrew (801/1-2): The first two Ogbourne St Andrew registers highlight the difficulties of interpreting casual jottings. (See also Introduction footnote 69). The first has the names of several Seymours, notably a list of the children of John Seymour; John, Philip, William, Thomas, Roger, Charles, Robert, Edward, Bridget and Elizabeth (most of whom appear in the baptismal entries between 1648 and 1661). They are in the same hand as the entries for the years 1659-1666 in the second register, after which there is a gap until 1671. It might seem reasonable to infer that John Seymour was parish clerk before William Marsh, so described in the record of his burial on 7 Jul 1671: (Marsh was described as a tailor in his probate records (P5/1671/60). However this John Seymour was described as a gentleman in his will made in 1679 which included bequests to several children from the list above. Even taking account of his age and frailty the signature is quite different from that of the author of these jottings.

Salisbury St Thomas: Appointment by the Dean and Chapter of John Small, a lay singer in the cathedral, as parish clerk, 1724X1726 (D1/41/4/2)

INDEX OF PERSONS AND PLACES

All personal names have been indexed, except those in the St George and the Dragon ballad (see pp82-4), but it has not always been possible to distinguish between homonyms, or collate individuals who may be styled differently even in the same documents. Titles (Revd, Mr etc) are only included to distinguish homonyms. Variant spellings of surnames are grouped together and cross-referenced. References to the registers of a specific parish are printed in bold. Places are in Wiltshire, unless otherwise stated. Public houses are printed in italics.

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